REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPIUM DEPARTMENT

OF THE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOR THE

REVENUE YEAR 1884-85,

WITH

APPENDICES.

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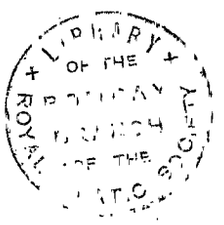

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1885.

No. 7123 OF 1885.

FROM

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,
SALT, OPIUM AND ABKA'RI,
Poona;

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Revenue Department,
Bombay.

Poona, 19th October 1885.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the administration of the Opium Department of the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1884-85, ending 31st July 1885. INTRODUCTION.

CHIEF EVENTS.

Central Opium Warehouse.

2. Among the principal events of the year was the completion of the Central Opium Warehouse in Bombay, which was opened on the 1st August last. The building selected for the purpose is that formerly known as the Apollo Bonded Warehouse, situated close to the Custom House in Bombay. It has been taken on lease, from the Bombay Port Trust, on the terms mentioned in paragraph 2 of the report for 1883-84, and it has been adapted to its present requirements at a cost of Rs. 37,818.

3. The building is one of three storeys, 195 feet in length east and west, by 85 feet in breadth. The retaining walls are of rough stone masonry, and the floors and supports are constructed of teak timber. In the centre of the building, as now altered, from the top to the ground-floor is a large well, lighted by a sky-light. On each floor a broad gallery runs round the well, and communicates with the two substantial stair-cases constructed on each side of the well. On to the galleries open the compartments, six on each floor, or eighteen in all, for the storage of opium chests. Each compartment is 85 feet long by 28 feet broad, and has a floor area of about 2,380 square feet. Four cranes have been provided on the third storey for lifting and lowering opium chests, through the well, to and from the several galleries. The ground-floor is taken up by the office of the warehouse-keeper and the Government Opium Depôt, and the rest of the space available is utilized by the merchants as a meeting place for the transaction of business. As a necessary precaution against fire, tanks to hold water are distributed on the several floors, *viz* :—

1st Floor—One tank of 400 gallons capacity.
2nd Floor— Do do. do.
3rd Floor—Two tanks, each of 800 gallons capacity.

4. These tanks are all fitted with taps for connecting a hose and for service by bucket, and are connected with each other by piping. A 5" water-pipe also runs under the pavement in the ground-floor, with connection for stand-pipes, two of which are within the building and one at each end outside of it. It is also intended to provide a manual fire engine and two hand-pumps. The main entrance opens into Marine Street to the west, and the east end of the building faces the Town or Custom-house Bandar to which access is afforded by a wicket-gate. The testing or assay

Central Opium Warehouse.

rooms are built on the Bandar at the east end of the Warehouse. They are nine in number, and all have been filled with water-taps and drains. They are enclosed by a wooden fence on the Bandarside, and they also are approached by a wicket-gate.

5. The modifications required in the Opium Rules in consequence of the establishment of the warehouse, and rules under Section 8 of the Opium Act, 1878, for its management, were sanctioned by the Government of India in their telegram dated the 1st June 1885; and the establishment required for the warehouse and generally for the Opium Department in Bombay, at a monthly cost of Rs. 1,349, was sanctioned by their letter, No. 1439, dated the 18th idem. A warehouse-keeper on a salary of Rs. 250, rising, by annual increments of Rs. 20, to Rs. 350, has been appointed to the charge of the warehouse, and he is assisted by two gate-keepers and 7 sepoys.

6. Some time before the opening of the warehouse, applications were invited from opium merchants in Bombay for renting the storage and testing rooms in the new warehouse, rent being chargeable in accordance with the following scale :—

	Monthly Rent.	Payable.
Storing Compartments—		
Nos. 1, 7 and 13	Rs. 80 each.	Monthly in advance.
Nos. 2, 3, 8, 9, 14 and 15 ...	„ 75 „	do.
Nos. 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 18	„ 70 „	do.
Testing Rooms—		
Nos. 1 and 2	„ 30 „	do.
Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7	„ 15 „	do.

7. All the compartments and testing rooms were taken up before the 1st August, at an aggregate monthly rental of Rs. 1,455, or Rs. 17,460 per annum, two or more merchants having, in several cases, jointly rented a single compartment or a testing room.

8. All stocks of opium held in the merchants' private warehouses were transferred by them to the new warehouse on the 1st August last; and all opium imported into Bombay for exportation by sea is now lodged in the new warehouse as soon as it has arrived. The whole arrangement was carried out without friction, and the opium merchants in Bombay are apparently satisfied with the new state of things. This most desirable consummation has been brought about after protracted negotiations and correspondence extending over six or seven years.

State monopoly in Baroda territory.

9. The Baroda State, to which the privilege of manufacturing opium under a State monopoly for exportation by sea as well as for home consumption, was conceded in 1877, represented to the Government of India in 1883 that the Darbár suffered loss from the State monopoly of opium, and requested permission to substitute for it a scheme which had been proposed and rejected before sanction to the present arrangement was given in 1877. After careful consideration of the arguments and figures set forth by the Darbár, the Government of India came to the conclusion that they could not be regarded as either accurate or complete; and as the Baroda Darbár declined to avail itself of the means and opportunity afforded of producing full and trustworthy information in support of the complaint that the opium arrangements sanctioned in 1877 had caused loss to His Highness the Gáikwád, the Government of India finally decided in May last that those arrangements should remain unaltered. It may be noted that the existing arrangements were adopted after long and careful deli-

CHIEF EVENTS.

beration, and are essential to the general restrictive system which has been accepted by other feudatory States in Gujarát, with a view to protecting the British opium revenue.

Rates of opium duty.

10. No change was made during the year under report in the rates of opium duty, which remained at Rs. 650 per chest on opium intended for export to China and other foreign countries, and Rs. 700 per chest on opium imported for local consumption in the Bombay Presidency. The rates levied on opium at the scales at Ajmere were, as usual, Rs. 25 per chest higher in each case.

Importation of Dungarpur opium by the Udepur-Ahmedabad land route.

11. Soon after the transfer of the scales from Udepur to Chitor at the end of 1883, and the consequent closure of the Udepur-Ahmedabad land route for the importation of opium into the Bombay Presidency, His Highness the Mahárával of Dungarpur in Meywár applied, through the Resident, for permission to export, for sale, by the closed route to Ahmedabad, some 300 chests of opium which had accumulated in his State. The permission was granted by the Government of India on condition that the whole of the opium should be exported within a period of three months, but the Darbár found itself unable to dispose of, for importation into Gujarát, any portion of the 300 chests in question. The Darbár has now requested that the old land route to Ahmedabad be declared permanently open for the importation of Dungarpur opium under certain conditions. Their representation is now under the consideration of Government.

Opium Agencies.

12. No change was made during the year in the number or location of the scales for the weighment of opium.

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Total exports from agencies and duty realizations.

13. The number of chests weighed and passed at the scales for export to different parts of India, and the amount of duty levied thereon in each of the last two years, are as under :—

For Export to	1883-84.		1884-85.	
	Chests.	Duty.	Chests.	Duty.
		Rs.		Rs.
Panjab	208	36,400	169	29,575
Madras Presidency	453½	3,17,450	500	3,50,000
Nizám's Territory	417	2,91,900	331	2,31,700
Hyderabad Assigned Districts ...	263	1,84,100	216	1,51,200
Mysore (Duty-free)	20	.....	...	.....
Coorg (do.)	0½	.....	...	.....
Bombay Presidency	42,135½	2,73,99,862½	41,332	2,68,80,712½
Do. (Duty-free)	47½	.....	91	.....
Total ...	43,545	2,82,29,712½	42,639	2,76,43,187½

14. The foregoing table includes 945 chests exported to Bombay in 1883-84 from His Highness the Gáikwád's dominion on payment of duty amounting to Rs. 6,14,250. No such exports were made during the year 1884-85; and this circumstance accounts for the decrease in the aggregate number of chests weighed and passed, and in the duty realizations made, at the scales. The exports from the opium-producing territories in Málwa, Central India and Rájputána, and the duty realizations thereon, were about the same in each year.

15. The exports to Provinces and Presidencies other than the Bombay Presidency amounted to 1,216 chests, and the duty realizations to Rs. 7,62,475, in 1884-85, against 1,362 chests exported, and Rs. 8,29,850 realized, in 1883-84. These exports and realizations are not included in the accounts of this Presidency, and have only been incidentally mentioned in order to show the total amount of work done at the Opium Agencies' connected with the Bombay Presidency.

Exports from different agencies.

16. Of the imports into the Bombay Presidency, the largest number of chests were, as usual, passed at the Indore Agency, *viz.*, 12,466 chests in 1884-85, against 12,979 in 1883-84. The next in

OPIUM IMPORTS.

STATISTICS.

Exports from different Agencies.

importance were those from Ujain,—9,497 chests in 1884-85, and 9,817½ in 1883-84. Chests to the number of 6,498 were passed at Chitor during the year under report, against 6,754 chests cleared in the previous year at the Chitor and Udepur scales combined. The imports from Mandesar, where scales were established in 1882, show a considerable advance over the preceding year, the number of chests passed in 1884-85 being 6,312, against 4,849½ in 1883-84. The traffic at Ratlam also recovered during the year 1884-85, in which 2,258½ chests were weighed and passed, against 1,527 in 1883-84. Dhár, Javra and Bhopál exported each fewer chests than in the previous year, their collective exports being 4,197 chests in 1884-85, and 5,100 chests in 1883-84. There was a further decrease of 60 chests in the exports from Ajmere which had fallen in 1883-84 to 163½ chests. There were no imports, as already stated, from the Kadi Mahál of His Highness the Gáikwád *vid* Ahmedabad during the year under report, probably because the Darbár considered it advisable to reserve its stocks for home consumption rather than export its opium to China at a disadvantage.

Aggregate Exports from Agencies.

17. The number of chests of duty-paid opium weighed and passed at each agency for export to the Bombay Presidency, and the amount of duty realized thereon, in each of the last two years, and the average of the exports and realizations at each, for each series of three years ending 1882-83, 1879-80, and 1876-77, are exhibited in the appended Statement No. I., which shows the following aggregate results:—

Annual average of the 3 years ending—	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
1876-77...	48,584⅔	2,91,50,800
1879-80...	38,144	2,53,97,138
1882-83...	36,339½	2,47,73,096
In 1883-84...	42,135½	2,73,99,862½
In 1884-85...	41,332	2,68,80,712½

The decrease in the imports and realizations for the year under report, as compared with those of the previous year, is due, as already explained, to the cessation of exports from His Highness the Gáikwád's dominions.

Duty realizations on Exports from scales.

18. Duty was levied at the undermentioned rates on the 41,332 chests weighed and passed at the scales for exportation to Bombay:—

246½	chests @ Rs.	700	per chest ...	....Rs. 1,72,550
103½	,,	675	,, ...	....,, 69,862½
40,982	,,	650	,, ...	... ,, 2,66,38,300
41,332	chests.			Rs. 2,68,80,712½

Actual imports into Bombay and actual duty realizations.

19. The number of chests actually imported into Bombay, and the amount of duty actually realized and brought to account, during the year under report, were 41,375 chests and Rs. 2,69,43,112½. The difference between these figures and the statistics of exports from and realizations at the scales quoted in the last preceding paragraph is explained below:—

	Chests.	Duty. Rs.
Chests passed and duty levied at the scales in 1884-85... ...	41,332	2,68,80,712½
Deduct—Number not arrived in Bombay before the close of the year—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay within the year	186	...
(*b*) Chests on which duty was not realized in Bombay within the year	1,686	10,95,900
	39,460	2,57,84,812½

STATISTICS.

Actual imports into Bombay and actual duty realizations.

	Chests.	Duty.
Brought forward ...	39,460	2,57,84,812½
Add—Chests passed at the scales in 1883-84 but arrived in Bombay in 1884-85—		
(*a*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1883-84	183	...
(*b*) Chests on which duty was realized in Bombay in 1884-85.	1,782	11,58,300
Number of chests actually arrived and duty actually realized in Bombay in 1884-85	41,375	2,69,43,112½
Compare (*vide* appended Statenent No. II.) actual imports into and actual realizations in Bombay—		
In 1883-84	40,929	2,65,90,287½
Average of 3 years ending—		
1882-83...	36,157½	2,46,91,854
1879-80...	38,232	2,53,62,137½
1876-77...	48,913½	2,94,07,200

Differential duty on opium bought for home consumption.

20. Including duty-free imports and the differential duty collected at the rate of Rs. 50 per chest on opium imported into Bombay on payment of duty at the lower rates and subsequently disposed of for home consumption, the imports and the realizations for each of the last three years were as under :—

	Chests.	Duty.
1884-85	41,466	2,70,02,933½
1883-84	40,976½	2,66,48,062½
1882-83	38,850	2,53,55,577½

21. So far as the actual imports into Bombay and the actual duty realizations are concerned, those for the year under report are in excess of those for either of the two previous years.

Total opium stock in Bombay.

22. There were, at the commencement of the year under report, 1,452 chests of opium calculated to be in stock in the merchants' warehouses in Bombay. The imports during the year, added to the balance, made up a total stock of 42,827 chests duty-paid and 91 chests duty-free opium. The stock was distributed, as under, during the year—(for details see Appendix No. III. which also shows the distribution of stocks in each of the last 11 years) :—

			Chests.
Exported to foreign countries beyond India :—			
(*a*) To Zanzibar and other African ports.	6½		
(*b*) To China	39,819		
			39,825½
Exported to Mysore and Cochin			75
Bought for home-consumption :—			
(*a*) by Government for supply of depôts.	312½		
(*b*) by Licensees in British districts ...	751		
(*c*) by Native Chiefs—			
Duty-paid	379½		
Duty-free	91		
	470½		
			1,534
Wiped off the stock owing to passes not having been utilized within the prescribed period			171½
On hand in merchants' warehouses at the end of the year			1,312
Total ...			42,918

STATISTICS.

Dryage and wastage.

23. With reference to the item of 171½ chests wiped off the stock, it may be explained that opium loses in weight by dryage, that some is lost from wastage caused by manipulation and repacking, and that it is the custom of the trade to issue small quantities of opium as perquisites, in alms and in payment of wages of menial employés connected with the merchants' warehouses. It was impossible to ascertain the quantities so lost or disposed of in the absence of complete control over the traffic and over the private warehouses, but under Rule 22 of the old Opium Rules, each pass-port covering the importation of opium into Bombay became void and could not be used for the purpose of clearing opium from the Custom House for export after the expiration of two years from the date of its issue; so that it was the practice of the Department to write off the accounts the number of chests to the extent of which each pass-port might not have been utilized for export within two years. The 171½ chests were written off in this manner, but they do not by any means represent the actual amount of the deficiency resulting from the causes above mentioned. On the opening of the Government warehouse on the 1st August last, it was found that all the opium which the merchants had to transfer to the new warehouse only amounted to 428½ chests out of a book-balance of 1,312 chests. There was thus a deficiency of 883½ chests, a considerable portion of which may be set down to legitimate causes, such as dryage and wastage in assays, and the rest must no doubt have been illicitly passed into the town as perquisites, wages, alms, &c. The stoppage of these practices, which greatly interfered with the development of the revenue from the home consumption of opium, was one of the principal reasons for the establishment of the Government warehouse.

EXPORTS.

To African ports.

24. The only foreign ports besides those in China, to which opium was exported from the port of Bombay during the year under report, were some on the African coast. 6½ chests were exported to those ports in 1884-85, against 8½ in 1883-84, and 21 chests in 1882-83.

CHINA EXPORTS.

25. The bulk of the exports went as usual to China; 39,819 chests were exported to that country during the year under report, against 39,763½ chests in the previous year. This shows an excess of 55½ chests only. The exports for 1884-85, as compared with those of 1882-83, show an excess of 2,572½ chests, and exceed the exports of 1881-82 by 8,686 chests.

Course of opium trade in China.

26. I think it right to quote here the remarks made by some of Her Majesty's Consuls in China, in their Commercial Reports for 1884, on the course of the opium trade in China. Mr. P. J. Hughes, Consul-General at Shanghae, writes—

"The following table shows the total import of opium during the year 1884, as compared with that of 1883:—

	1883.		1884.	
	Pic.	c.	Pic.	c.
Málwa	29,938	0	30,219	50
Pátna	8,186	40	7,227	60
Benares	6,590	40	4,310	40
Persian	964	50	188	0

"The amount of foreign opium landed in Shanghae during 1883 and 1884 for local consumption is shown in the subjoined table:—

	1883.	1884.
	Piculs.	Piculs.
Málwa	1,297	1,388
Pátna	6,748	6,886
Benares	4,918	3,352
Persian	544	91
Total ...	13,507	11,717

"The re-export of opium from Shanghae during 1883 and 1884 was as follows:—

	1883.		1884.	
	Indian.	Persian.	Indian.	Persian.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Newchwang	381	6	268	...
Tien-tsin	2,526	30	2,314	...
Chefoo	893	17	851	10
Hankow	3,162	24	3,454	9
Kiukiang	1,611	37	1,544	1
Wuhu	3,514	23	3,688	...
Chinkiang	11,495	242	10,982	18
Ningpo	7,943	355	7,917	2
Wênchow	60	...	14	...
Foochow	232	63	65	41
Amoy	...	...	12	...
Swatow	...	...	42	1
Kelung	...	...	2	...
Hong Kong	183	37	666	5

"*Málwa.*—Although the total import during the year shows an increase of 359 piculs, the local consumption at this port has diminished by 308 chests. Early in the year prices were very low: 382 taels for new, and 390 taels for old; but in April they gradually improved to 425 taels for new, and 455 taels for old, drug, which were the highest rates ruling during the year. Prices, however, soon began to fall and in July were 390 taels for new and 405 taels for old. From that month to the end of the year the quotations varied from 390 to 415 taels for new and 405 to 425 taels for old. During the year native dealers worked on a sound basis; but although the shipments from India were regular, the past year was unfavourable for importers owing to the keen competition which prevailed.

"*Bengal (Benares and Pátna).*—There is a decrease of 4,149 piculs in the import of this class of opium as compared with that of 1883. On account, however, of the short crop of the season 1882-83 the Indian Government sold 7,600 chests less than in 1883, and the decrease in the import of Shanghae is only proportionate. Prices were considered moderate early in January, *viz.* 410 taels for Pátna and 403 taels for Benares. The highest prices touched were 465 taels for both Pátna and Benares, and these rates were maintained for a month, when they began to give way. During April and May prices ranged between 450 and 440 taels. In the month of June, owing to the failure of a large speculator, about 800 chests of old Pátna opium were thrown upon the market.

"A portion of this lot being sold as low as 405 to 395 taels, caused a considerable fall in the market, and at the end of July rates had sunk to 417 taels; they shortly rose to 430 taels, but in September again dropped to 410 taels for Pátna and 403 taels for Benares. Owing to the decreasing stock, prices rose gradually to 443 taels for both Pátna and Benares at the end of the year.

"*Persian.*—During 1884 the import of this class of opium was very small, and the ruling prices being high, the demand was slack. The highest price reached was 415 taels in May, the lowest 350 taels in November. These rates are, however, considered comparatively high for this drug.

"*African.*—This opium was this year imported to China for the first time. Six chests only arrived, which obtained a ready sale at 350 taels.

Course of opium trade in China.

"Shipments from India were not so heavy as expected, and this moderation helped to sustain the market, which would otherwise have been seriously affected by local causes.

"*Szechuan Opium.*—It will be seen that only 256 piculs appear in the returns as compared with 944 piculs last year. The Commissioner of Customs remarks upon this subject :—.

'It is evident that much larger supplies reach Shanghae than the quantity brought in foreign bottoms and coming within the cognizance of this office. The native dealers report very favourably of the coming crop from Szechuan, Honan and Yunnan, the weather having been splendid for the in-gathering, but on such data, as can be supplied here locally, it is simply an impossibility to base an estimate as to the possible supply to come forward.'

"The following figures show the amount imported into Shanghae and reported at the Foreign Customs during the past thirteen years :—

Years.	Piculs.	Years.	Piculs.
1872	310·39	1879	117·44
1873	148·70	1880	718·36
1874	75·17	1881	2,402·82
1875	891·35	1882	1,890·82
1876	1,600·45	1883	944·78
1877	1,079·54	1884	256·55
1878	798·09		

"The following table shows the average monthly prices of native opium throughout the year 1884, duty-paid :—

	Szechuan.	Kweichow.	Tansaw.
	S'hae-Taels per Picul.	S'hae-Taels per Picul.	
January	320	250	Prices ranged from 200 to 235 taels per picul according to the quality.
February	324	250	
March	320	253	
April	330	268	
May	336	268	
June	347	247	
July	345	247	
August	333	248	
September	334	248	
October	339	243	
November	326	240	
December	330	243	

Mr. R. J. Forrest, Consul at Amoy, makes the following remarks :—

"There has been an increase in the imports of opium during the year under review as compared with 1883 of 1340·24 piculs. A good deal of this would have been re-exported to Formosa had no blockade existed. The local consumption is, however, largely on the increase, a fact to be accounted for by the rapid augmentation of inhabitants in this district since the extinction of the rebellion. The large consumption of morphia in and round Amoy is attracting considerable attention. At first administered by foreign doctors as an antidote for opium-smoking, its sale has now become the means by which a number of their native apprentices gain their living. Shops are open for the traffic in all the large cities of this district, and the amount dispensed by these ignorant vendors has been estimated at from 200 to 400 ounces a month. As all the disadvantages connected with opium-smoking, especially loss of time and money, disappear to the morphia-eater, there is a great future for this poison. The vendors obtain it direct from wholesale chemists in London, and if it were taxed as opium, a plan pursued, I am informed, in Manila, the traffic would most likely at once cease.

"On the subject of *Native Opium* it is impossible to get any strictly reliable information ; the production is nominally illicit, and all taxes are evaded. No data exist upon which an estimate of the supply can be based.

Some Tang-oa traders state that the yield in that neighbourhood has not shown any increase, but that in the Ankai and Lung-yen Chou districts there is a steady increase. People interested in the produce state that about 700 piculs, valued at 300,000 dollars, were put on the market during the past year."

Mr. Charles A. Sinclair, Consul at Foochow, observes—

"The local consumption has been on the whole satisfactory during the year, notwithstanding the French war operations in the Min, which impeded the course of trade only for about a month.

"The Customs returns show as follows:—

	Piculs.	Value. H. Taels.
Málwa	2123·64	8,26,354
Pátna	1080·00	3,91,427
Benares	677·20	2,41,730
Persian	190·12	71,469
Turkey	...	...
Total ...	4070·96	15,30,980

"The Customs returns are, however, not a fair criterion as to whether the trade has improved, remained stationary, or retrograded.

"At the beginning of some years stocks are small, at others large; shipments are shaped according to the stocks lying in the godowns here The importation during this year (1884), although displaying a marked decrease of about 300 piculs on that of the preceding year, does not prove that the trade in opium for the year has been dull. As said before, the consumption has been satisfactory, and the trade done active and profitable

"*Málwa and Persian.*—The business done in Málwa throughout the year (with the exception of August—the month of the bombardment) was good, and better than that of 1883, although an increase in import of not more than 70 piculs on that of the year before is shown by the Customs returns.

"There would have been a decided increase in the import of this drug, firstly, because the Persian crop failed; and secondly, because the native crop of this part of the province and its vicinity was short, had it not been for the French operations in this river in August last, in consequence of which up-country dealers got their supplies overland from Swatow, Amoy and Ningpo.

"From what is written at the commencement of the above paragraph it would appear that an increase or decrease in the consumption of Persian and native drugs inversely tells on Málwa. Such is the case. The Persian drug is accounted by the Chinese as a sort of inferior Málwa, and the native drug a still more inferior one. Smokers unable to obtain Persian or native drugs, either on account of scarcity or high rates, fall back on Málwa.

"The prices of Persian for the greater part of the year in the south were about 80 dollars more than those of Málwa; formerly it could be procured at about 100 or 150 dollars less than Málwa.

"When the prices of Persian are lower than of Málwa, the former has a good market here, as it is mostly consumed by the less wealthy classes.

"Native drug interferes but little with Indian; it nevertheless has a slight effect on the sales of Málwa in Foochow. Of the native drug there was little comparatively speaking with former years on the market; the price demanded for it in June and July was about 100 dollars higher than usual.

"*Patna.*—The market for this was steady, and its consumption almost equal to that of 1883, notwithstanding that there was little or no business done for over a month.

"*Benares.*—This drug is mostly consumed up-country; the simple assertion of there having been smuggling on a large scale on the other side of the frontier barrier explains the reason of the diminished import.

"Throughout the year, excepting in August, there have been no unusual fluctuations in the prices of all descriptions of opium.

"With but few exceptional cases, the system of selling for cash, introduced lately, has been adhered to. It has caused no hindrance whatever to the trade, and it answers quite as well as selling on credit."

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CHINA EXPORTS.
Course of opium trade in China.

Mr. B. C. G. Scott, Consul at Wuhu, remarks—

"A larger quantity of opium, by some 164 chests, has been imported into Wuhu in 1884 than during any year since the port was opened to trade. With the exception of one chest of Pátna, the whole quantity imported, amounting to 3,663·88 chests, valued at 14,42,387 taels, consisted of Málwa opium, all other kinds including Persian and Sẅ-chuan opium having disappeared entirely from the returns. The rates prevailing during 1883 have been maintained with, if any thing, a slight tendency to fall; but this, in the absence of competition from Persian and Turkey opium, coupled with the increased import, is of small importance. No trustworthy information relating to the consumption of Ssu-chuan and Shun-hsi opium in this market is obtainable, and it can only be repeated that these descriptions of the drug are openly sold here, but to what extent is confessedly mere guess-work by those applied to for information. The cultivation of the poppy is not extending in this province; for some years it has been grown in the extreme North, on the borders of Honan and Kiangsu, near Su-chow, but no opium produced in that district reaches Wuhu. The opium trade is entirely confined to Chinese merchants at this port, the ostensible share taken in it by two small so-called British firms having ceased during the year."

Opium prices in China and Bombay.

27. The following statement shows the prices of one and two years old opium ruling in the Bombay market in each of the last two years, contrasted with the prices quoted for similar opium in the principal China markets of Hongkong and Shanghai:—

Months.	1883-84.						1884-85.					
	Bombay Market.		China Market.				Bombay Market.		China Market.			
			Hongkong.		Shanghai.				Hongkong.		Shanghai.	
	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.	One year old.	Two years old.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
August	1,174	1,250	1,161	1,222	1,211	1,287	1,211	1,251	1,216	1,261	1,272	1,313
September	1,176	1,229	1,199	1,243	1,259	1,302	1,205	1,247	1,205	1,259	1,255	1,303
October	1,126	1,164	1,198	1,243	1,229	1,262	1,181	1,232	1,203	1,248	1,259	1,299
November	1,118	1,166	1,139	1,194	1,197	1,236	1,163	1,190	1,172	1,228	1,210	1,251
December	1,122	1,166	1,138	1,170	1,209	1,242	1,177	1,213	1,168	1,215	1,219	1,252
January	1,134	1,186	1,097	1,125	1,187	1,227	1,175	1,219	1,177	1,215	1,213	1,234
February	1,148	1,229	1,100	1 160	1,196	1,250	1,177	1,204	1,184	1,207	1,229	1,247
March	1,194	1,282	1,140	1,198	1,244	1,318	1,140	1,179	1,168	1,190	1,203	1,223
April	1,240	1,311	1,245	1,306	1,288	1,375	1,141	1,191	1,151	1,178	1,201	1,232
May	1,229	1,280	1,214	1,258	1,267	1,320	1,144	1,210	1,165	1,209	1,228	1,256
June	1,219	1,250	1,215	1,265	1,281	1,329	1,162	1,203	1,139	1,181	1,194	1,225
July	1,204	1,232	1,213	1,258	1,260	1,308	1,157	1,203	1,154	1,192	1,208	1,244
Average	1,175	1,229	1,172	1,220	1,236	1,288	1,169	1,212	1,175	1,215	1,223	1,257

Remarks on prices.

28. The year under report opened with a slight improvement in the prices as they stood at the end of the previous year, both here and in the China markets. A corresponding fall occurred in the next month, September, and the prices fell still further in October and November 1884. The market was somewhat firmer in December, and continued to be so till February 1885. A comparatively heavy fall of some 20 and 30 rupees per chest occurred in March 1885, from which the market did not recover till about the end of May; but the recovery which continued, with slight improvement in each successive month, till the end of the year, was, however, only partial, and the year closed with quotations less by about Rs. 50 than the prices with which it opened.

EXPORTS TO MYSORE.

29. The exports to Mysore and Cochin from the port of Bombay fell off from 86½ chests in 1883-84 to 75 chests in 1884-85.

The exports to those States in 1882-83 amounted to 74½ and in 1881-82 to 84½ chests. EXPORTS TO MYSORE.

30. The rest of the opium disposed of by merchants in Bombay was sold for consumption in the Bombay Presidency,—(*a*) to Government, who bought for the supply of the Government Depôts, from which opium is issued to the smaller licensees and Native States, (*b*) to British opium farmers, and (*c*) to Native Chiefs. The two last also imported opium direct from Málwa on their own account. These constitute the year's stock for home consumption in British districts and Native States throughout the Bombay Presidency, except Baroda, which consumes opium manufactured locally. It will be convenient to present the accounts of home consumption as usual in pounds, each pound being taken as equal to 40 tolas of 180 grains, that being the standard of weight adopted in keeping the opium accounts at Government depôts and those rendered by farmers and Native States throughout the Presidency. HOME CONSUMPTION.

31. Government bought, during the year under report, from the merchants in Bombay 312½ chests at an aggregate cost of Rs. 3,87,516, the weight of the contents of which brought to account was 42,524 lbs. 31½ lbs. of opium were returned by licensed vendors on the expiry of their licenses for which they were paid Rs. 315, while 43½ lbs. were returned by the Commissariat Department for which it was given credit to the amount of Rs. 437. The aggregate purchases during the year thus amounted to 42,599 lbs. at a cost of Rs. 3,88,268, or at an average rate of Rs. 9-1-10 per lb., as against the average price of Rs. 9-3-9 paid for purchases made during the previous year. There were, besides, 46,976 lbs. of opium, valued at Rs. 4,86,963, on hand in the depôts at the commencement of the year. Including the purchases made during the year the total Government stock amounted to 89,575 lbs. valued at Rs. 8,75,231, giving an average cost of Rs. 9-12-4 per lb. Government stock and purchases.

32. The rate at which opium was issued from the depôts continued throughout the year to be Rs. 10 per lb., except in the case of opium issued from the depôts at Rájkot, Sádra and Pálanpur. The issue-rate for the depôts last mentioned continued to be Rs. 12 per lb. until the 16th June 1885, on and from which date it was reduced to Rs. 10 per lb., and this rate is still in force. Government issue-rate.

33. Lbs. 47,741 were issued from the Government depôts during the year under report to British licensed vendors and Native Chiefs, on payment of prices amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 5,01,617 (inclusive of Rs. 50,254 adjusted by credit to sale-proceeds and debit to refunds on account of drawback of duty on opium issued to Native Chiefs). The sales resulted in a net profit of Rs. 2,932, after deducting from the surplus (Rs. 21,005) of the sale-proceeds over the cost price of the opium sold, (*a*) the charges (Rs. 6,701) incurred on account of the transport of opium from Bombay to up-country depôts, (*b*) the charges (Rs. 1,280) on account of the Government depôts at Sádra and Pálanpur (which yield no profit to Government and the cost of maintaining which is met from the proceeds of the sale of opium), and (*c*) the value (Rs. 10,092) of 1,003 lbs. of opium written off during the year as loss from dryage and wastage. There remained in stock at the end of the year lbs. 40,831 valued at Rs. 3,84,527. Issues from Government depôts.

34. Excluding the issues (18,609 lbs.) from Government depôts to Native Chiefs entitled to full or partial remission of duty—issues which will be considered further on in treating of the opium consumption in Native States—the rest of the quantity, amounting to lbs. 29,132, was issued to licensed retailers for sale in British districts. To this must be added the 751 chests, equivalent to Stock for British Districts.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Stock for British Districts.

lbs. 102,219, imported or bought by licensed vendors on their own account in the open market, as shown in the margin, and then retailed for local consumption. There were thus placed on sale in licensed shops in British districts lbs. 1,31,351, exclusive of certain unsold stocks of the previous year bought from retiring licensees by the new licensed vendors which did not pass through the Government accounts.

By licensed Vendors of—	Bought in Bombay, Chests.	Imported from Málwa, Chests.
Bombay	75½	.....
Ahmedabad ...	87	111
Kaira	86	7
Panch Mahals ...	.....	18
Broach	92½	.....
Surat	26½	.....
Thána	11	.....
Násik	35	7
Ahmednagar ...	55	.....
Poona	64	.....
Sholápur	43½	5
Sátára	23	.....
Kolába	0½	.....
Hyderabad... ...	3½	.....
Total ...	603	148

35. In the previous year the total stock placed on sale in British districts amounted to lbs. 115,637, of which lbs. 26,212 were issued from Government depôts, lbs. 77,992 (or 573 chests) were bought by licensed vendors on their own account in the Bombay market, and lbs. 11,433 (or 84 chests) were imported by them from Málwa.

Sales in British Districts.

36. The quantities of opium which actually passed into consumption during the year under report in each British district are shown in the subjoined table in contrast with the licit sales during the preceding year, and the average of each period of 3 years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83 :—

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Bombay	919	7,112	11,086	11,557	12,615
Ahmedabad	3,274	8,452	20,244	23,760	25,857
Kaira	167	3,695	10,376	11,658	10,994
Panch Mahals	.....	1,068	2,854	2,718	2,766
Broach	233	3,186	9,713	11,739	12,353
Surat	816	1,545	3,520	3,820	3,692
Thána	565	595	1,330	1,636	1 337
Khándesh	1,025	1,352	5,860	9,588	10,282
Násik	2,079	1,754	2,525	4,498	5,895
Ahmednagar	1,185	1,052	3,191	6,722	7,707
Poona	1,030	1,044	6,066	8,550	8,960
Sholápur	282	659	2,649	5,220	6,942
Sátára	478	756	1,269	2,177	2,806
Belgaum	387	547	712	720	718
Dhárwár	328	269	378	498	555
Bijápur	117	114	215	335	312
Kánara	144	124	108	137	136
Ratnágiri	179	184	173	190	190
Kolába	167	219	302	337	679
Karáchi	1,708	2,036	2,514	3,426	3,578
Hyderabad...	8,490	5,534	5,790	6,051	7,185
Shikárpur	970	1,210	1,749	2,103	2,312
Aden	222	249	254	228	195
Total ...	24,765	42,756	92,878	117,668	128,066

General remarks on sales.

37. The foregoing statement shows that the licit sales in British districts during the year under report exceeded those of the previous year by 10,398 lbs., and the average of the three years ending 1882-83 by 35,188 lbs. or nearly 30 per cent. They were three times as large as the average of the three years ending 1879-80, and more than five times the average of the three years ending 1876-77, the year immediately preceding the introduction of the present system of excise opium revenue.

38. Bombay and Ahmedabad show satisfactory increases of about 1,000 and 2,000 lbs. respectively. There is an increase of about

General remarks on sales.

1,700 lbs. in Sholápur, of 1,400 lbs. in Násik and 1,000 lbs. in Ahmednagar; while smaller increases are noticeable in Broach, Khándesh, Poona, Sátára and Kolába. The licit consumption of the Panch Maháls, Belgaum, Dhárwár, Bijápur, Kánara and Ratnágiri may be said to have remained stationary; while Kaira, Surat and Thána show small decreases. The decrease in Kaira may be said to be due to the fact of the British licensed vendors in that district having been undersold by retailers in adjoining Baroda territory. The decreases in Surat and Thána are comparatively small and call for no remark. The same observation applies to the small decrease apparent in the consumption of licit opium in Aden. A satisfactory improvement is noticeable in the licit sales in all districts in Sind, especially in Hyderabad in which the adoption of the measures, referred to in paragraph 30 of the report for 1883-84, has had the effect of increasing the licit consumption by over 1,100 lbs.

Opium farms.

39. The opium farms of the districts of Ahmedabad, Kaira, Broach, Násik, Poona, Sholápur and Ahmednagar have been sold in each case for a period of three years beginning on the 1st August 1884, instead of for one year as usual. The comparatively long tenancy thus secured appears to have induced the farmers to take greater interest and pains in the development of their farms; and this circumstance is probably the cause of the improvement in the licit sales in the majority of those districts, and it has counteracted to some extent the prejudicial effect, on the licit opium consumption of Kaira, of the unfair competition by Baroda retailers.

Opium used in manufacture of chandul, &c.

40. Of the quantities of opium sold in 1884-85, lbs. 4,214 were used in the manufacture of chandul, madat and other preparations of opium, against 6,009 lbs. similarly used in the previous year. The decline is due to the legal sanction given by the amendment of the Opium Rules during the year to the manufacture for private consumption by any person of chandul, madat, &c., from opium obtained by him in a licit manner.

Sources of supply.
Opium transactions of Native States.

41. The opium sold in Native States in the Bombay Presidency was obtained from the following sources :—

		Lbs.
Baroda—Opium locally manufactured		63,308
Cutch—Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (chests 90)		12,250
Káthiáwár States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-paid passes (81 chests)	11,025	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (168 chests)	22,867	
(*c*) Issued from the Government depôt at Rájkot	10,160	
		44,052
Pálanpur States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (42 chests).	5,716	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (4½ chests)	612	
(*c*) Issued by the Collector of Customs from Government stock (13½ chests)... ...	1,838	
(*d*) Issued from the Government depôt at Pálanpur	1,801	
		9,967
Carried forward ...		129.577

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION, Native States.

		Lbs.
Brought forward ...		129,577
Mahi Kántha States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under duty-free passes (24 chests).	3,267	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (12 chests)	1,633	
(*c*) Issued by the Collector of Customs from Government stock (6½ chests)	885	
(*d*) Issued from the Government depôt at Sádra.	1,965	
		7,750
Rewa Kántha States—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbárs concerned direct from Málwa under—		
Duty-free passes (18 chests) ...	2,450	
Duty-paid „ (7 chests)... ...	953	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbárs concerned in the Bombay market (one chest)	136	
		3,539
Cambay—		
(*a*) Imported by the Darbár direct from Málwa under—		
Duty-free passes (7 chests)... ...	953	
Duty-paid „ (10½ chests) ...	1,429	
(*b*) Bought by the Darbár in the Bombay market (5½ chests)	749	
		3,131
All other Native States in the Bombay Presidency—		
Issued from different Government depôts—		
(*a*) From Government Stocks ...	1,960	
(*b*) From stocks of confiscated opium ...	3	
		1,963
Total ...		145,960

42. The following is an abstract of the above, which also shows the quantities of opium dealt with in the same Native States during the preceding year:—

	1883-84.		1884-85.	
	Chests.	Lbs.	Chests.	Lbs.
Imported direct from Málwa under—				
(*a*) Duty-free passes	47½	6,465	91	12,386
(*b*) Duty-paid „	70	9,528	98½	13,407
Bought in the Bombay market...	227½	30,965	281	38,247
Issued by Collector of Customs from Government stock	21	2,858	20	2,723
Issued from Government Depôt—				
(*a*) In Native territory	99¾	13,561	102½	13,926
(*b*) In British districts	14	1,896	14½	1,960
(*c*) Confiscated opium	...	7	...	3
Baroda-grown opium	444½	60,463	465½	63,308
Total ...	924¼	1,25,743	1,073	1,45,960

43. The foregoing statement shows that while the issues from Government depôts during the year for consumption in Native territory were about the same as in the preceding year, the Chiefs bought larger quantities direct in the markets of Málwa and Bombay. I will now present the accounts of opium transactions in each group of States as presented by the Darbárs concerned, premising that any differences in the quantities shown above as bought by the Chiefs and the quantities actually credited in their accounts for the year are due to the circumstance that portions of the purchases made at the end of one year have been accounted

for in the Darbárs' accounts after the arrival of the opium during the next year.

DISTRIBUTION.
HOME CONSUMPTION.
Native States.
Baroda.

44. The following are the statistics of opium manufacture and sales in Baroda territory :—

	Average of three years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area under poppy cultivation	19,044	334	567
Poppy Juice.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	235,682	314,518	6,072
Purchased during the year	305,003	3,399	8,597
	540,685	317,917	14,669
Utilized in the manufacture of opium ...	231,635	311,845	7,022
Stock on hand at the end of the year	309,050	6,072	7,647
Production and Purchase of Opium.			
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	133,664	332,713	402,631
Manufactured from juice	201,427	261,043	4,312
Confiscated opium	182	91	63
Returned by licensed vendors	5	.....	16
Total Stock ...	335,278	593,847	407,022
Disposal of Opium.			
Exported to Bombay *vid* Ahmedabad	68,173	130,060	.....
Issued to licensed retailers	34,345	60,463	63,308
Total ...	102,518	190,523	63,308
Loss from dryage, &c.	761	693	42,372
Stock on hand at the end of the year	231,999	402,631	301,342
Total of Exports and Sales, Loss and Balance.	335,278	593,847	407,022

Cultivation of poppy in Baroda territory restricted.

45. The cultivation of the poppy in Baroda territory during the year under report was restricted, as in the previous year, pending the disposal, by the Government of India, of the representation made to them by His Highness the Gáikwád with a view to the introduction into Baroda of opium arrangements differing from those which have been in force under the Agreement of 1877-78.

Accumulation of stocks in Baroda.

46. It would seem that about 31 chests of opium were added during the year to the stock (about 2,876 chests) which remained unsold on the hands of the Darbár at the end of 1883-84. No portion of the opium was exported to China, on payment of British duty, during the year under report. Some 466 chests were issued to licensed retailers in Baroda territory, while an enormous quantity, amounting to 42,372 lbs., was written off in 1884-85 as loss from dryage and wastage. The Sar-Subba explains :—"Since the introduction of the opium monopoly system in the Kadi Division the dryage on opium had not been written off and hence a large quantity that had to be struck off the accounts now." There actually remained about 2,200 chests of opium in the Darbár's warehouse at the end of the year 1884-85.

Loss from dryage and wastage written off in Baroda accounts.

Licit sales in Baroda territory.

47. The quantities of opium sold in each of the main divisions of His Highness the Gáikwád's dominions in each of the last two years, and the average annual sales for the three years ending 1882-83 are shown in the subjoined table :—

DISTRIBUTION.

HOME CONSUMPTION.

Baroda.

Names of Divisions.	Annual Average of the 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Navsári	1,798	2,507	2,636
Baroda	16,821	27,914	28,862
Kadi	8,380	17,588	22,326
Amreli	7,409	12,486	9,065
Total ...	34,408	60,495	62,889

Remarks on licit consumption in Baroda.

48. The sales in the Amreli Division fell off by more than 3,000 lbs. owing, probably, to the raising of the selling price to an amount more nearly approximating the prices at which opium was retailed in the adjacent Káthiáwár States—a measure which must have checked to some extent the introduction into those States of immense quantities of Baroda opium which used to find its way thither in consequence of the great disparity before existing in the selling prices of the drug. The retail prices in Amreli and in the Káthiáwár States have not yet, however, been completely equalized; and a similar unsatisfactory state of things enables the licensed retailers in other divisions of His Highness's dominions to sell more opium every year to British subjects to the injury of the British excise revenue. This matter has been the subject of correspondence for the last three years, but the Baroda administration has, as yet, paid no heed to the remonstrances urged from time to time by the Government.

Cutch opium accounts.

49. The accounts furnished by the Cutch Darbár of its opium transactions are as follows :—

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year	2,102	2,538	1,046
Imported during the year	9,267	8,400	12,600
Confiscated opium	124	66	27
Total Stock ...	11,493	11,004	13,673
Issued to licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbár ...	8,655	9,753	9,948
Dryage	448	205	296
Stock on hand at the end of the year ...	2,390	1,046	3,429
Total ...	11,493	11,004	13,673

50. The foregoing statement shows a progressive improvement in the licit opium consumption of the Cutch State, the quantity passed into consumption in the year under report being in excess of that recorded for the previous year by 195 lbs., and of the average of the three years ending 1882-83 by 1,293 lbs.

Káthiáwár opium accounts.

51. Similar accounts of opium transactions in Káthiáwár as furnished by the Chiefs are as follows :—

	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Stock on hand at the beginning of the year ...	8,699	15,723	16,172
Imported by direct purchase in Bombay and Málwa	10,839	23,479	33,892
Purchased from the Rájkot Depôt ...	23,523	9,564	10,166
Confiscated opium	...	204	330
Excess found in Stock on re-weighment ...	3	1	4
Total Stock ...	43,064	48,971	60,564
Sold to public or licensed retailers and used for private consumption of the Darbárs ...	31,321	32,253	43,035
Loss from dryage	401	546	428
Stock on hand at the end of the year ...	11,342	16,172	17,101
Total of Sales, Loss and Balance ...	43,064	48,971	60,564

52. The following statement shows the licit sales during the same period in each of the main Divisions of Káthiáwár :— Licit sales in each main Divisiðn of Káthiáwár.

Names of Divisions.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Jháláwád...	3,575	4,936	5,659
Sorath	8,644	7,512	12,307
Hálár	10,647	11,348	13,765
Gohelwád	8,455	8,457	11,304
Total ...	31,321	32,253	43,035

53. The licit sales in Káthiáwár during the year under report exceeded those of the previous year by 10,782 lbs., and the average of the three years ending 1882-83 by 11,714. The increase is spread generally over all the Divisions, but it is most marked in the Sorath Division, some of the States comprised in which are bordered by villages of the Amreli Mahál of His Highness the Gáikwád in which, as has been stated above, the selling prices of opium have been raised during the year 1884-85, and this has acted to a certain extent as a check to the introduction of illicit opium into Sorath. Remarks on licit consumption in Káthiáwár.

54. The accounts of opium transactions in Pálanpur, the Mahí Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay, as furnished by the Chiefs concerned, are given below :— Pálanpur, Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha, and Cambay.

HOME CONSUMPTION.
Pálanpur, Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha and Cambay.

Names of States.	Opening Stock.	Imported and locally purchased.	Total Stock.	Sold and consumed.	Loss from dryage.	Closing Stock.
Pálanpur.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,175	7,312	11,487	7,717	145	3,625
In 1883-84	1,475	8,153	9,628	7,620	117	1,891
„ 1884-85	1,891	7,010	8,901	7,818	99	984
Mahi Kántha.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	3,059	7,193	10,252	7,843	166	2,243
In 1883-84	1,593	7,915	9,508	8,227	142	1,139
„ 1884-85	1,139	8,022	9,161	7,024	175	1,962
Rewa Kántha.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	4,362	4,767	9,129	5,028	1,039	3,062
In 1883-84	2,374	4,904	7,278	4,605	1,036	1,637
„ 1884-85	1,637	4,316	5,953	4,312	233	1,408
Cambay.						
Annual average of 3 years ending 1882-83	132	2,765	2,897	2,799	4	94
In 1883-84	91	3,106	3,197	2,971	1	225
„ 1884-85	225	2,769	2,994	2,907	...	87

Remarks on consumption.

55. There is a slight improvement in the licit opium consumption of the Native States under the Pálanpur Superintendency, but in the Mahi Kántha and Rewa Kántha and the State of Cambay there has been a decreased consumption in the year under report as compared with the previous year. The decline is due to the cheaper rates at which opium was retailed in villages of Baroda intermixed with those of the Mahi Kántha, Rewa Kántha and Cambay, whereby the introduction of Baroda opium into the latter has apparently been increased.

Rate of licit consumption in British and Foreign Gujarát.

56. It may be interesting to compare here the rate of licit consumption per head of population in each main division of His Highness the Gáikwád's dominions, and of the province of Kathiáwár, as well as of the Native States of Cutch, Pálanpur, the Mahi-Kántha, the Rewa Kántha and Cambay, with that of British districts in Gujarát, for each of the last five years, these being the parts of the Presidency in which opium is most largely consumed :—

Names of Districts and States.	Population.	Rate of Licit Opium Consumption per Head of Population in Tolas.				
		1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
British Gujarát—						
Ahmedabad	8,56,324	·96	·82	1·05	1·11	1·20
Kaira	8,04,800	·50	·46	·58	·58	·54
Panch Mahals	2,55,479	·58	·43	·31	·43	·43
Broach...	3,26,930	1·29	1·08	1·38	1·43	1·51
Surat	7,65,330	·17	·18	·19	·20	·19
Baroda Territory—						
Navsári	2,87,549	·22	·24	·28	·35	·36
Baorda...	7,56,807	·55	·95	1·14	1·47	1·52
Kadi	9,88,487	·18	·33	·50	·71	·90
Amreli...	1,47,468	·88	2·05	3·12	3·38	2·45
Káthiáwár—						
Jhalávád	4,39,629	·30	·30	·36	·44	·51
Sorath	6,39,780	·58	·53	·50	·47	·76
Hálár	6,84,327	·60	·63	·63	·66	·80
Gohelwád	5,80,163	·66	·62	·45	·58	·77
Cutch State	5,12,084	·59	·66	·66	·76	·77
Pálanpur States	5,76,478	·53	·52	·54	·53	·54
Mahi Kántha	5,17,485	·59	·69	·56	·63	·54
Rewa Kántha	5,43,452	·44	·35	·32	·34	·31
Cambay	86,074	1·22	1·41	1·27	1·38	1·34

HOME CONSUMPTION.
Smaller Native States.

57. All other Native States in the Bombay Presidency continue to obtain their supplies of opium from the nearest British Depôts or from the Collector of Customs, Bombay. The quantities issued to each of them in each of the last three years are noted below :—

Name of State.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Dharampur	150	166	161
Bánsda	110	150	90
Sachin	37	48	32
Jawhár	14	12	10
Akalkot	113	133	119
Bhor	122	143	220
Phaltan	219	150	126
Jath	21	16	17
Aundh	98	120	107
Sávantvádi	...	...	68
Kolhápur...	408	272	292
Sángli	177	332	219
Miraj Senior	199	130	134
Do. Junior	75	62	39
Kurandvád Senior	55	62	75
Do. Junior			14
Jamkhandi	36	52	38
Mudhol	90	20	34
Rámdurg...	20	15	15
Sávanur	9	20	17
Janjira	...	...	136
Total ...	1,953	1,903	1,963

58. The consumption of opium in these States is comparatively small and has been about the same in each of the last three years, during which the opium agreements taken from them have been in force.

REALIZATIONS.
IMPERIAL.

59. The revenue results of the year may be summed up as follows. It has been shown in paragraph 20 above that the duty on opium realized and brought to account, during the year under report, amounted to Rs. 2,70,02,933-6-11. From this amount must be deducted the amounts of duty refunded, as shown below, on account of duty-paid opium bought by Native Chiefs, entitled to full and partial remissions of duty :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
One-third of the duty on 44,042 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by or issued to Native Chiefs in Káthiáwár ...	75,517	2	3
One-third of the duty on 12,250 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by the Cutch Darbár	21,000	0	0
Full duty on 4,251 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in Pálanpur	21,862	4	7
Full duty on 4,483 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in the Mahi Kántha	23,055	11	5
Full duty on 1,089 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Chiefs in the Rewa Kántha	5,600	0	0
Full duty on 2,178 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by the State of Cambay	11,200	0	0
One-fifth of the duty on 1,490 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Native Chiefs in Southern Gujarát, the Konkan, Deccan and Southern Marátha Country, except the Sátára Jághirdárs	1,532	9	2
One-tenth of the duty on 470 lbs. of duty-paid opium bought by Sátára Jághirdárs	241	11	5
Total Refunds ...	1,60,009	6	10

Deductions for duty on home consumption.

60. Deducting these refunds from the gross duty realizations, there remains a balance of Rs. 2,68,42,924-0-1. Of this sum

IMPERIAL.

Rs. 850,111-8-1 are on account of opium bought for home consumption as shown below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Duty on opium bought and retained for consumption in British districts	6,48,771	8	1
Two-thirds of duty on opium bought by Native Chiefs in Káthiáwár...	1,51,034	4	7
Two-thirds of duty on opium bought by the Cutch Darbár.	42,000	0	0
Four-fifths of duty on opium bought by Native Chiefs in Southern Gujarát, Konkan, Deccan, and Southern Marátha Country, except the Sátára Jághirdárs ...	6,130	4	7
Nine-tenths of the duty on opium bought by Sátára Jághirdárs	2,175	6	10
Total ...	8,50,111	8	1

Net Imperial duty.

61. Of the net duty realizations there thus remain Rs. 2,59,92,812-8 relating exclusively to the External Trade. To the same head pertain also the realizations on account of transhipment fees, Rs. 14,511, and interest, Rs. 27, and miscellaneous receipts, Rs. 640.

Comparison with previous years.

62. The items for the year under report are compared in the subjoined table with similar items for the previous year and with the average realizations for each period of three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83 :—

Items.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	2,94,07,200	2,53,68,115	2,47,73,820	2,66,48,062	2,70,02,933
Deduct—Duty on opium sold for home consumption	48,000	2,68,824	8,26,382	9,17,412	10,10,121
Net Opium Duty ...	2,93,59,200	2,50,99,291	2,39,47,438	2,57,30,650	2,59,92,812
Transhipment fee... ...	160	1,945	2,608	16,592	14,511
Interest	270	267	102	41	27
Miscellaneous receipts ...	1	83	93	.....	640
Total Imperial Receipts ...	2,93,59,631	2,51,01,586	2,39,50,241	2,57,47,283	2,60,07,990
Less Refunds ...	.....	.....	734	183	1
Net Receipts ...	2,93,59,631	2,51,01,586	2,39,49,507	2,57,47,100	2,60,07,989

Transhipment fees.

63. Of the amount realized on account of transhipment fees in 1884-85, Rs. 470 were collected at Aden against Rs. 978 in the previous year, and Rs. 14,041 were collected in Bombay against Rs. 15,614 in 1883-84.

64. Altogether, 4,843 chests were transhipped in the Bombay harbour in 1884-85, of which 1,778 chests paid transhipment fees at Karáchi and were exempted from payment of additional fees of the same kind at Bombay under the authority of Government of India's letter No. 2900, dated the 20th August 1883. In the case of 213 chests, however, which formed part of 3 consignments of less than 150 chests each, transhipment fees having been levied at Karáchi at the rate of Rs. 4 per chest, instead of at Rs. 5 per chest, the short recovery was made good at Bombay. Of the remainder, 6 chests were carried on in the same bottoms on payment of re-export fees at the rate of Rs. 5 per chest, while the number of chests transhipped were 1,884 at the rate of Rs. 5 per chest, 853 at the rate of Rs. 4 per chest, and 322 at the rate of Rs. 3 per chest.

EXCISE.

Opium duty on purchases for local consumption.

65. It will be seen from the table given under paragraph 62 above that a sum of Rs. 10,10,120-14-11 has been deducted from the total opium duty realized during the year 1884-85, on account of duty on opium taken for local consumption in this Presidency. This sum represents the duty on 1,443 chests of duty-paid opium

bought during the year on Government account, by British licensees and by the Chiefs of Native States, as shown in paragraph 22 above. The duty has been calculated at the following rates:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
246½ chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 700 per chest.	1,72,550	0	0
1 chest imported on payment of duty at Rs. 675 per chest.	675	0	0
1,195½ chests imported on payment of duty at Rs. 650 per chest.	7,77,075	0	0
Differential duty at Rs. 50 per chest on the last 2 items.	59,820	14	11
Total ...	10,10,120	14	11

66. Of this sum, Rs. 1,60,009-6-10 represent refunds paid and payable in respect of the portions of the above quantities bought by Native Chiefs as detailed in paragraph 59; and of the balance Rs. 2,01,340 (*vide* paragraph 60) represent the amount of duty retained on those portions, and Rs. 6,48,771-8-1 (*vide* same paragraph) the full duty on the remainder of the opium bought for local consumption, *viz.*—751 chests or 102,219 lbs., bought by British farmers on their own account in the market; plus 312½ chests or 42,524 lbs. bought on Government account, less 18,609 lbs. issued to Native States = 23,915 lbs.; total 126,134 lbs.

Opium duty on actual sales.

67. It has, however, been shown in the table given under paragraph 36 that the quantity of opium actually sold in the Bombay Presidency during the year under report amounted to 128,066 lbs., in which is included the unsold balance of the previous year's purchases for local consumption.

68. In the account of the excise revenue for 1883-84 presented in paragraphs 52 and 53 of the report for that year, no credit was taken for the duty on opium which remained unsold at the end of the year. It is necessary, therefore, to take credit in the year under report for the whole of the opium amounting to 128,066 lbs. consumed during the year, and not merely for the duty on the 126,134 lbs. purchased by the licensees. The duty on 128,066 lbs. consumed during the year amounts to Rs. 6,58,625. In addition to this amount a sum of Rs. 99,669 was collected as license-fees for the privilege of selling opium and chandul, and Rs. 1,22,068 were paid by farmers on account of duty on the quantities by which their actual sales fell short of the minima sales which they guaranteed. The aggregate excise revenue drawn from these sources in British districts amounted for the year under report to Rs. 8,80,362, while the sum of Rs. 8,66,307 was realized from the same sources in the previous year. The increase over last year thus amounts to Rs. 14,055.

License-fees.

69. The realizations in each British district during the year under report are compared in the following table with those of the previous year, and with the averages of successive periods of three years ending respectively in 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83. The table also shows in the lump for all districts, and for the same series of years, the profits on the sale of Government opium, the sale-proceeds of confiscations and other items of sundry receipts pertaining to local consumption, as well as the duty at reduced rates derived from the consumption of opium in Native States not entitled to the remission of full opium duty, *i.e.*, the States in Káthiáwár, Cutch, Southern Gujarát, the Konkan, the Deccan and the Southern Marátha Country. The statement also shows the amounts refunded on account of items other than opium duty. The result for the whole Presidency for the year under report shows an increase of Rs. 73,849 in the net revenue realizations under all heads from the local consumption of opium over those of the year 1883-84, of Rs. 3,19,077 over the average realizations for the three years ending 1882-83, of Rs. 6,60,123 over those of the three years ending 1879-80, and of Rs. 7,80,137 over those of the three years ending 1876-77:—

Total realizations.

EXCISE.

Total realizations.

Names of Districts.	Annual Average of three years ending—			1883-84.	1884-85.
	1876-77.	1879-80.	1882-83.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bombay	13,877	45,505	68,727	75,842	80,769
Ahmedabad	16,903	42,886	1,07,946	1,47,552	1,46,879
Kaira	2,241	18,643	56,789	76,379	69,324
Panch Mahâls	14,740	13,405	17,457	15,634	15,367
Broach	3,079	17,949	49,818	65,684	66,687
Surat	5,758	9,094	19,786	25,429	24,987
Thána	5,520	4,826	6,922	11,025	9,703
Khándesh	18,823	19,264	51,903	96,248	1,00,128
Násik	17,878	17,974	24,313	33,922	38,166
Ahmednagar	10,146	8,828	21,274	49,388	56,452
Poona	22,607	20,630	36,462	72,546	68,273
Sholápur	6,701	6,943	15,867	33,391	43,843
Sátára	6,355	6,898	10,761	11,941	15,236
Belgaum	3,338	3,975	5,160	6,110	6,721
Dhárwár	5,476	3,718	5,554	6,902	7,564
Bijápur	1,035	886	1,714	3,175	2,387
Kánara	1,033	1,268	1,090	1,259	1,242
Ratnágiri	1,693	1,565	1,655	1,733	1,983
Kolába	1,237	1,643	2,287	2,766	3,605
Karáchi	21,913	21,920	28,434	38,752	35,688
Hyderabad	53,617	49,307	45,332	60,065	55,146
Shikárpur	8,787	11,557	17,739	26,827	27,009
Aden	3,180	3,686	3,780	3,737	3,203
Total, British Districts ...	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	8,66,307	8,80,362

Names of Items.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1876-77.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1879-80.	Annual Average of 3 years ending 1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.
Abstract.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opium duty	86,184	1,99,758	4,61,939	6,05,149	6,58,625
License-fees	1,45,013	1,28,865	72,986	1,03,673	99,669
Penalty for deficient sales by licensees	.....	134	65,845	1,57,485	1,22,068
Transit opium duty	14,740	3,613	...	...	.....
	2,45,937	3,32,370	6,00,770	8,66,307	8,80,362
Profit on sale of Government opium	.....	...	19,959	1,195	2,932
Contribution for Government establishment	.....	...	...	6,600	11,900
Fines and confiscations	17,015	15,000	12,895	17,496	14,168
Miscellaneous receipts	191	1,204	1,828	1,356	824
Total for British Districts...	2,63,143	3,48,574	6,35,452	8,92,954	9,10,186
Duty at reduced rates on Opium consumed in—					
Káthiáwár...	54,629	79,710	1,14,873	1,12,079	1,51,034
Cutch	4,800	16,977	29,245	28,000	42,000
Other smaller States	.....	...	5,237	8,021	8,306
Total for Native States ...	59,429	96,687	1,49,355	1,48,100	2,01,340
Grand Total ...	3,22,572	4,45,261	7,84,807	10,41,054	11,11,526
Refunds.					
License-fees	193	1,631	181	...	308
Penalty for deficient sales ...	.....	18	1,029	11,887	8,818
Fines and confiscations	106	1,348	290	635	19
Miscellaneous receipts	29	6	3	...	.....
Total Refunds ...	328	3,003	1,503	12,522	9,145
Net Revenue ...	3,22,244	4,42,258	7,83,304	10,28,532	11,02,381

70. I trust that the revenue results for the year 1884-85 as shown in the foregoing statement will be regarded by Government as satisfactory.

Opium EXPENDITURE.

71. It was stated in paragraph 54 of the report for 1883-84 that complete accounts of Imperial and Provincial expenditure relating to the Opium Department were not available in this office, some of the district officers having expressed their inability to furnish the

required information owing to the introduction of the system of unclassified accounts, while the ábkári and opium charges were mixed together in the statements furnished to this office by the Accountant General. Government, in paragraph 8 of their Resolution No. 1394, dated the 17th February last, called upon the Accountant General for information whether he could not arrange to show the expenditure incurred for the protection of the opium revenue separately from that incurred for the protection of the ábkári revenue. The Accountant General stated that there was considerable objection to classifying expenditure in local or departmental reports otherwise than as ordered by the Supreme Government for the whole of India, and suggested that a single report on the administration of the Excise Department including opium and ábkári should in future be prepared for this Presidency as in other Presidencies and provinces. Government did not approve of this suggestion, and have directed by their Resolution No. 3073, dated the 16th April last, that this office should ascertain from the Accountant General annually the total expenditure recorded in the financial accounts under the head "Excise," and show in the Administration Reports approximately the proportions which may fairly be held to appertain to the protection of excise opium and other excise revenue respectively. A detailed statement of expenditure debited under the head "Excise," as intimated by the Accountant General, will be given in the Abkári Administration Report for 1884-85, as a larger proportion of the charges belong to the Abkári Department. It will, I trust, be regarded sufficient for the purposes of the present report to state that in addition to the charges amounting to Rs. 19,691 on account of a portion of the opium establishment in Bombay and that employed at the Ahmedabad Opium Agency, which have been debited under the Imperial head "Opium", a sum of Rs. 30,000 may be estimated as the amount of the expenditure properly debitable against the excise opium revenue. Of this sum Rs. 11,900 have been recovered from some of the opium farmers who are required by the terms of their licenses to contribute fixed sums on account of opium preventive establishments.

OFFENCES.

Number of cases adjudicated.

72. The subjoined table shows the number of cases under the Opium Act investigated by Magistrates, the number of cases in which convictions were obtained, the number of cases dismissed, and the aggregate quantity of contraband opium seized in each British district and Native State (except Baroda for which a return has not been received), in each of the last two years :—

Districts and Native States.	1883-84.							1884-85.						
	Cases in which Convictions were obtained.		Cases dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.	Cases in which Convictions were obtained.		Cases Dismissed.		Total Cases brought up.		Quantity of contraband Opium seized.
	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.		No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	
							Lbs. t. g.							Lbs. t. g.
Bombay	19	20	..	..	19	20	203 27 112½	15	16	3	6	18	22	118 21 135
Ahmedabad	59	67	15	20	74	87	269 28 125	81	97	19	32	100	129	340 22 66½
Kaira	60	73	4	8	64	73	89 11 45½	102	107	4	4	106	111	79 28 126½
Panch Mahâls	27	49	8	9	35	58	251 33 87	17	26	8	11	25	37	24 29 116
Broach	23	23	4	8	27	31	41 5 45	11	12	1	1	12	13	40 0 10¾
Surat	3	3	1	1	4	4	2 25 0	1	1	..	..	1	1	0 0 17
Thâna	6	6	1	1	7	7	14 4 13	1	1	1	1	2	2	0 5 22½
Kolába	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Khándesh	105	110	23	37	128	147	205 16 106	40	52	8	14	48	66	221 34 102
Násik	6	7	..	..	6	7	17 4 147½	2	2	..	1	2	3	8 17 0
Ahmednagar	3	4	..	..	3	4	19 13 45	7	7	4	4	11	11	9 39 63½
Sholápur	9	10	1	3	10	13	7 8 92	3	3	1	2	4	5	0 16 90
Poona	12	14	3	5	15	19	47 14 139	5	5	8	10	13	15	58 27 78¾
Sátára	7	21	2	6	9	27	0 2 103	1	1	..	..	1	1	0 10 45
Belgaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Dhárwár	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	2	2	1	1	3	3	0 15 168½
Bijápur	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	1	2	..	..	1	2	....
Kánara	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Ratnágiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Karáchi	9	10	..	..	9	10	4 8 90	8	8	1	1	9	9	0 32 33¾
Hyderabad	4	4	..	..	4	4	4 10 23	3	3	..	..	3	3	0 24 82½
Shikárpur	4	6	..	1	4	7	2 29 142½	3	4	4	7	7	11	0 19 37½
Upper Sind Frontier	5	10	..	..	5	10	2 38 96	2	2	..	1	2	3	0 3 20
Thar and Párkar	17	20	6	6	23	26	16 34 127	40	39	7	9	47	48	29 27 178
Aden	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
Total	378	447	68	107	446	554	1,199 37 0¾	345	390	70	105	415	495	949 15 133¾

Districts and Native States.	1883-84. Cases in which Convictions were obtained. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Cases in which Convictions were obtained. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Cases dismissed. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Cases dismissed. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Total Cases brought up. No. of Cases.	1883-84. Total Cases brought up. No. of Persons.	1883-84. Quantity of contraband Opium seized. Lbs. t. g.	1884-85. Cases in which Convictions were obtained. No. of Cases.	1884-85. Cases in which Convictions were obtained. No. of Persons.	1884-85. Cases dismissed. No. of Cases.	1884-85. Cases dismissed. No. of Persons.	1884-85. Total Cases brought up. No. of Cases.	1884-85. Total Cases brought up. No. of Persons.	1884-85. Quantity of contraband Opium seized. Lbs. t. g.
Cutch	7	11	..	..	7	11	14 38 139¼	6	7	3	3	9	15	16 14 54
Káthiáwár	55	70	1	16	56	86	240 11 39¼	56	66	7	22	63	88	236 20 35½
Pálanpur	57	90	3	13	60	103	414 5 122½	85	122	5	21	90	143	244 29 71¾
Mahi Kántha	60	82	12	21	72	103	216 29 100	47	72	2	4	49	76	252 17 67
Rewa Kántha	35	99	8	8	43	107	785 11 41¼	51	78	6	19	57	97	270 28 79¾
Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country	2	5	1	1	3	6	....	1	2	..	..	1	2	....
Akalkot	7	8	1	1	8	9	4 28 48	..	..	..	..	..	..	....
States under Sátára Agency	3	3	..	..	3	3	0 27 27	2	2	..	..	2	2	0 10 97
Total	226	368	26	60	252	428	1,676 31 121¼	248	349	23	74	271	423	1,021 0 45
Grand Total	604	815	94	167	698	982	2876 28 122¼	593	739	93	179	686	918	1,970 15 178¾

Remarks on the table.

73. The statement shows a decrease of 31 in the number of cases adjudicated, of 59 in the number of persons brought up, and of 250 lbs. in the quantity of contraband opium seized in British districts during the year under report as compared with the previous year.

Opium seizures.

74. The largest decrease occurred in Khándesh, which shows that the special preventive measures adopted and the activity displayed by the Railway Police employed in that district, in recent years, have made it somewhat difficult for smugglers to carry on their trade. A few important seizures were, however, made during the year in Khándesh, the principal of which was the capture made, in March last, by a policeman at the Jalgaon Railway Station, of 78 lbs. of illicit opium, found in the possession of a passenger, arrived from His Highness the Holkar's territory. Thirty-one and half pounds of illicit opium were found in the possession of the opium licensee at Amalner, and 26 lbs. of similar opium were found in the course of searching a house at Bhusával. These seizures indicate that opium-smuggling has not yet been completely put down in Khándesh.

In Khándesh.

In Ahmedabad and Kaira districts.

75. The number of cases tried in the districts of Ahmedabad and Kaira during 1884-85 were considerably in excess of those adjudicated in the previous year. The majority of the cases were of illicit importation of opium in small quantities from Baroda villages. The cases of importance tried in the Ahmedabad District were—one of 22¾ lbs. of opium found by a peon of the Salt Department, to have been concealed in a secret drawer of a box, apparently containing scent bottles, in the possession of a passenger, arrived by the Rájputána-Málwa Railway at Ahmedabad in September 1884; another of 42 lbs. clandestinely brought by a person from Kesariaji in Márwár into the Prántij Táluka in January last; and a third of 138 lbs. of illicit opium found concealed in baskets (*Kávad*) hung from each end of a bámbu carried on the shoulder of a person dressed as a mendicant who gave out that he was carrying holy water, jars of which formed the upper layer of the contents of the baskets. This seizure was effected in June last. The only important seizure made in the Kaira District during the year was one of 25 lbs. found by an Abkári Inspector in May 1885 to have been concealed in a field and supposed to have been brought from Málwa.

76. There was also a considerable increase in the number of cases detected in the Thar and Párkar District, but none of the seizures made were of any importance.

77. The fluctuations in the other districts call for no remarks. One capture of 72½ lbs. was made in January last in the city of Bombay by the exertions of an Opium Inspector.

In Native States.

78. There was an increase of 19 in the number of cases tried in Native States in 1884-85 as compared with 1883-84, but the number of persons brought up was less by 5 than in the previous year; and the quantity of contraband opium seized fell off to the extent of 655 lbs. No seizures of any importance were made during the year under report in Cutch and Káthiáwár. A capture of 25 lbs. of contraband opium was made in December 1884 in Pálanpur by the Diván's men, and another of 29 lbs. was made in May last by a sepoy of the Salt Department posted at the Roho Station on the Rájputána-Málwa Railway. The Frontier Preventive Establishment of the Salt Department also captured in February last 100 lbs. of opium which had been concealed in a house in a village of the Tharád Táluka under the Political Superintendent, Pálanpur. Of the important seizures made in the Mahi Kántha, there was one of 12½ lbs. in Samera in December last, two captures of 14 and 24 lbs. in January and April last in the Sadasna Táluka, and one of 175½ lbs. effected by the Thákor of Pol in May last. The only seizures of importance made in the Rewa Kántha were one of 17 lbs. in Sanjeli, another of 22 lbs. in Sunth, and a third of 28 lbs. in Chhota Udepur.

Percentages of convictions on number prosecuted.

79. The percentages of convictions on the number of persons prosecuted were 79 and 80 for British districts and 82 and 86 for Native States for the years 1884-85 and 1883-84 respectively.

Classification of offences.

80. Statement No. IV. contains a classification of the offences charged, and the nature and amount of punishments awarded in 1884-85. The following is an abstract of the particulars embodied in that statement, together with corresponding figures for the previous year:—

British Districts.

Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.					
					Imprisonment.		Fines.			
					Rigorous.	Simple.	Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in Default of Payment.
					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
1883-84.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy	12	26	2	24	..	..	234 0 0	224 0 0	10 0 0	30
Do. manufacture of opium	14	24	6	18	90	..	356 0 0	141 0 0	215 0 0	183
Do. possession of opium	295	343	68	275	5,267	428	10,045 0 0	7,567 2 9	2,477 13 3	1,743
Do. transport of opium	6	8	2	6	360	90	850 0 0	500 0 0	350 0 0	210
Do. import of opium.	61	90	9	81	3,968	..	6,031 4 0	1,742 4 6	4,288 15 6	1,764
Do. export of do.	4	4	..	4	88	..	135 0 0	135 0 0	....	..
Do. sale of do.	51	56	19	37	427	30	1,599 0 0	1,514 0 0	85 0 0	67
Breach of condition of license	3	3	1	2	..	..	275 0 0	275 0 0	....	..
Total ..	446	554	107	447	10,200	548	19,525 4 0	12,098 7 3	7,426 12 9	4,002
1884-85.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy	7	11	3	8	..	60	47 0 0	47 0 0	....	128
Do. manufacture of opium	3	4	2	2	..	..	60 0 0	60 0 0	....	61
Do. possession of opium	268	292	57	235	5,116	264	9,521 1 0	6,401 11 3	3,119 5 9	3,897
Do. transport of opium	5	7	1	6	420	..	121 0 0	21 0 0	100 0 0	30
Do. import of opium.	81	114	23	91	3,426	31½	3,024 4 1	864 4 1	2,160 0 0	1,873
Do. export of do.	6	11	3	8	150	..	150 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0	123
Do. sale of do.	36	43	9	34	15	14	1,041 0 0	1,041 0 0	....	444
Breach of condition of license	9	13	7	6	30	..	75 8 0	75 8 0	....	6
Total ..	415	495	105	390	9,157	369½	14,039 13 1	8,580 7 4	5,459 5 9	6,617

OFFENCES.

Classification of offences. Native States.

81. Similar particulars regarding foreign territory are given in Appendix No. V., an abstract of which is subjoined :—

Nature of Offence.	No. of Cases brought up.	No. of Persons tried.	No. of Persons discharged or acquitted.	No. of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.					
					Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fines.			
							Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment awarded in default of Payment.
1883-84.					Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.
Illegal cultivation of poppy ..	8	12	1	11	..	..	67 0 0	Information not available.	Information not available.	Information not available.
Do. manufacture of opium	4	4	..	4	..	120	....			
Do. possession of opium	190	330	49	281	10,134	714	10,512 13 3			
Do. import of opium.	46	76	8	68	2,532	74	2,138 11 1			
Do. sale of do. ..	4	6	2	4	60	..	242 12 0			
Total ..	252	428	60	368	12,726	908	12,961 4 4			
1884-85.										
Illegal cultivation of poppy ..	1	2	..	2	..	..	8 0 0	8 0 0	....	....
Do. possession of opium	209	300	58	251	2,495	1,490	6,172 0 0	3,363 0 0	2,809 0 0	5,659
Do. import of opium.	57	105	14	91	2,869	75	2,009 4 4	767 4 4	1,242 0 0	1,328
Do. export of do. ..	1	2	..	2	..	..	55 0 0	55 0 0	....	70
Do. sale of do. ..	3	5	2	3	30	..	58 0 0	33 0 0	25 0 0	40
Total ..	271	423	74	349	5,394	1,565	8,302 4 4	4,226 4 4	4,076 0 0	7,097

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
J. G. MOORE,
Acting Commissioner of Customs,
Salt, Opium and Abkári.

Statement No. I., showing the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted, the Number of Passes granted, and the Amount of Duty secured at each Opium Agency, during the year 1884-85 compared with the preceding year and with Averages for each of the three years ending 1876-77, 1879-80 and 1882-83.

Agencies.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.	Number of Pass-Ports.	Number of Chests.	Rate of Duty.	Amount of Duty.
	Average for three years ending 1876-77.				Average for three years ending 1879-80.				Average for three years ending 1882-83.				1883-84.				1884-85.			
			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
.. ..	726	19,064	600	1,14,38,400	711	9,526⅔ 4,658⅓	650 700	94,53,625	702	8,660 4,452½	700 650	89,55,475	801	12,825 154	700 650	84,44,050	773	12,219½ 246½	650 700	81,15,225
Ujain	679	14,978½	..	89,87,000	640	7,836 3,254⅔	650 700	73,71,667	653	6,748⅓ 3,511⅓	700 650	70,06,200	641	9,817½	650	63,81,375	665	9,497	650	61,73,050
Udepur	511	7,554	..	45,32,400	424	4,520⅓ 2,383⅓	650 700	46,06,650	409	3,329 1,192⅔	700 650	31,05,533	111	1,202	650	7,81,300	..	..	..	....
Chitor	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	458	5,552	650	36,08,800	623	6,498	650	42,23,700
Ratlam	102	2,237⅓	..	13,42,600	180	1,715⅓ 997⅔	650 700	18,13,323	129	1,301½ 397½	700 650	11,69,192	131	1,527	650	9,92,550	159	2,258½	650	14,68,025
Dhar	136	2,745⅔	..	16,47,400	23	481⅔ 110⅓	650 700	3,90,317	53	416⅔ 514⅓	700 650	6,25,983	91	1,392	650	9,04,800	66	1,016	650	6,60,400
Jowra	..	..	..	....	55	445 361	650 700	5,41,950	92	741 427½	700 650	7,96,467	96	1,410	650	9,16,500	101	1,338	650	8,69,700
Bhopal	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	146	961⅓ 1,035	700 650	13,45,683	144	2,298	650	14,93,700	154	1,843	650	11,97,950
Mandesar	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	....	125	115 1,564⅔	700 650	10,96,992	358	4,849½	650	31,52,175	485	6,312	650	41,02,800
	2,154	46,579⅔	600	2,79,47,800	2,033	24,525⅓ 11,765⅔	650 700	2,41,77,442	2,309	35,366	700 650	2,41,21,525	2,831	154 40,873	700 650	2,66,75,250	3,026	246½ 40,982	700 650	2,68,10,850
Ajmere	..	..	..	....	17	145⅓ 133	725 675	1,95,021	19	311⅔ 120⅔	725 675	3,07,296	11	163½	675	1,10,362½	5	103½	675	69,862½
Ahmedabad	166	2,005	600	12,03,000	127	1,554⅓ 20⅔	650 700	10,24,675	11	248⅓ 293⅓	700 650	3,64,275	19	945	650	6,14,250	..	..	..	....
Total ..	2,320	48,584⅔	600	2,91,50,800	2,177	38,144	650 675 700 725	2,53,97,138	2,339	36,339½	725 700 675 650	2,47,73,096	2,861	154 163½ 41,818	700 675 650	2,73,99,862½	3,031	246½ 103½ 40,982	700 675 650	2,68,80,712½

Statement No. II., showing the Number of Chests actually imported under Passes into Bombay, and the Amount of Duty actually realized and finally brought to Account, as compared with the Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and the Duty secured at the Agencies in each of the Eleven Revenue Years from 1874-75 to 1884-85.

Years.	Number of Chests actually imported into Bombay in each year.				Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which were lost on the Road.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted and Duty realized in current year but which did not arrive during the year.	Total Number of Chests for which Duty was realized and credited in current year. Total of Columns 3, 4, 6 and 7.	Rate of Duty per Cheat.	Amount of Duty realized and brought to Account.	Number of Chests for which Passes were granted but Duty not realized and Chests not arrived during the year.	Amount of Duty outstanding on Chests in Column 11.	Total Number of Chests for which Passes were granted during current year and the Amount of Duty due thereon.		Remarks.
	Under Passes granted in previous year.		Under Passes granted during current year.	Total Number of Chests imported. Aggregate of Columns 2, 3 and 4.								Chests. Total of Columns 4, 6, 7 and 11.	Duty. Total of Columns 10 and 12, less Duty on Chests in Column 3.	
	Duty having been realized and credited in that year.	Duty being realized in current year.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
								Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1874-75 ...	144	1,282	46,085½	47,511½	0½	335	47,703	600	2,86,21,800	1,031	6,18,600	47,452	2,84,71,200	
1875-76 ...	335	1,031	40,785	42,151	2	509	42,327	600	2,53,96,200	1,258	7,54,800	42,554	2,55,32,400	
1876-77 ...	509	1,258	55,310½	57,077½	2½	435	57,006	600	3,42,03,600	...	...	55,748	3,34,48,800	
1877-78 ...	435	...	37,104½	37,539½	4½	283	37,200½ 191½	650 675	2,43,09,587½	141	91,650	37,533	2,44,01,237½	
1878-79 ...	283	141	34,503	34,927	...	139	34,575½ 207½	650 675	2,26,14,137½	114	74,100	34,756	2,25,96,587½	
1879-80 ...	139	114	41,977	42,230	...	16	6,462 35,209½ 435½	650 700 725	2,91,62,687½	150	1,05,000	42,143	2,91,93,587½	
1880-81 ...	16	150	38,395½	38,561½	2½	184	38,177 555	700 725	2,71,26,275	55	38,500	38,637	2,70,59,775	
1881-82 ...	184	55	30,844½	31,083½	...	64	1,132½ 29,451 380	650 700 725	2,16,27,325	49	31,850	30,957½	2,16,20,675	
1882-83 ...	64	49	38,715	38,828	0½	172	84 361½ 38,491	700 675 650	2,53,21,962½	536½	3,48,725	39,424	2,56,38,837½	
1883-84 ...	172	536½	40,220½	40,929	...	133	154 163½ 40,572½	700 675 650	2,65,90,287½	1,782	11,58,300	42,135½	2,73,99,862½	
1884-85 ...	133	1,782	39,460	41,375	...	186	246½ 103½ 41,078	700 675 650	2,69,43,112½	1,686	10,95,900	41,332	2,68,80,712½	

Statement No. III., showing the Number of Chests imported into Bombay, the Number of Chests disposed of, the manner in which they were disposed of, and the Stocks held in Bombay at the end of the Year, for each of the eleven Revenue Years between 1874-75 and 1884-85.

Items.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	Remarks.
In stock at the commencement of the year...	1,169½	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	1,452	
Imported during the year	47,511½	42,151	57,077½	37,539½	34,927	42,230	38,561½	31,083½	38,828	40,929	41,375	
Total Stock ...	48,681	43,649	58,404½	44,772½	38,962	45,398	40,612½	33,998½	40,451	24,642	42,827	
Removed for exportation to China	46,917	42,174	51,005½	40,637	35,281	42,058	36,734	31,133	37,346½	39,763½	39,819	
„ England	150	41	71	2	1	5	11	...	...	...	...	
„ Zanzibar and African coast ...	20½	3	14	4	9	8	18½	17	21	8½	6½	
„ Mauritius do. ...	1	5½	3	1	1½	2	5	1	...	...	...	
„ Aden do. ...	...	4½	1	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	
„ Cochin, Allepey, Tellichery, and Vizagapatam	9	4	6	4	...	30	81½	84½	74½	86½	75	
Bought by Licensees in British District ...	...	...	...	11	59	81½	336½	460½	638½	657	751	
Bought by Native Chiefs—												
Cutch	8	...	...	...	64	50	57	73	58	60	90	
Pálanpur ... } Pálanpur Superintendency.	...	...	...	...	12	12	1	...				
Tharád ... }	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	15	23	4½	
Váv ... }	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1				
Mánsa, Mahi Kántha Agency ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	8½	3½	12	
Rewa Kántha States	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	23½	16½	6½	
Cambay	...	...	...	...	...	2	24½	11	20	22	6	
Jhinjhúváda ... } Káthiáwár Agency.	...	...	...	...	...	0½	1	0½				
Junágad ... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	123	172½	250½	
Bhávnagar ... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	29				
Bought by Government for internal supply.	75	89	68	76	298	501	360½	498	407	355½	132½	
Total Removed ...	47,180½	42,321	51,168½	40,735	35,726½	42,755	37,687½	32,348½	38,735½	41,168½	41,343½	
Wiped off the stock owing to passes not having been utilized within the prescribed period	2½	1	3	2½	67½	592	10	27	20½	3½	171½	
Total chests disposed of ...	47,183	42,322	51,171½	40,737½	35,794	43,347	37,697½	32,375½	38,756	41,172	41,515	
Stock at the end of the year ...	1,498	1,327	7,233	4,035	3,168	2,051	2,915	1,623	1,695	1,452	1,312	

Statement No. IV., showing the Number and Nature of Prosecutions under the Opium Act, No. I. of 1878, instituted in each District of the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue Year 1884-85, with their Results.

District.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Bombay	Illegal possession of opium ...	13	17	6	11	...	...	925 1 0	270 1 0	655 0 0	231	114 39 90	93 26 90	21 13 0	144 12 0
	Do. sale do. ...	5	5	...	5	...	14	120 0 0	120 0 0	.....	...	3 22 45	3 22 45	...	47 8 0
	Total ...	18	22	6	16	...	14	1045 1 0	390 1 0	655 0 0	231	118 21 135	97 8 135	21 13 0	192 4 0
Ahmedabad ...	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	40 0 0	40 0 0	.....	60	0 15 0	0 15 0	...	3 0 0
	Do. possession do. ...	68	73	17	56	2,347	10	4,063 8 0	3,193 8 0	810 0 0	1,423	170 9 89	169 10 72	0 39 17	1,026 5 10
	Do. transport do. ...	2	4	1	3	120	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	65 6 0
	Do. import do. ...	22	38	11	27	720	30	557 0 0	177 0 0	380 0 0	586	150 24 152½	150 24 152½	...	223 0 4
	Do. export do. ...	2	4	1	3	...	...	60 0 0	60 0 0	.....	63	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	2	6	1	5	...	...	475 0 0	475 0 0	.....	63	11 3 0	11 3 0	...	1 5 0
	Breach of condition of license ...	3	3	1	2	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	14	1 10 5	1 10 5	...	.....
	Total ...	100	129	32	97	3,187	40	5,175 8 0	3,985 8 0	1,190 0 0	2,209	340 22 66½	339 23 49½	0 39 17	1,319 1 2
Kaira	Illegal possession of opium ...	75	77	4	73	1,000	15	1,751 0 0	1,189 8 0	561 8 0	1,077	66 24 173½	66 21 38½	0 3 135	405 9 5
	Do. transport do. ...	1	1	...	1	120	...	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	30	8 13 0	8 13 0	...	30 0 0
	Do. import do. ...	29	29	...	29	30	½	280 4 1	250 4 1	30 0 0	326	2 30 132¾	2 30 132¾	...	8 11 8
	Do. export do. ...	1	4	...	4	120	...	80 0 0	.....	80 0 0	30	2 0 0	2 0 0	...	.....
	Total ...	106	111	4	107	1,270	15½	2,211 4 1	1,439 12 1	771 8 0	1,463	79 28 126¼	79 24 171¼	0 3 135	444 5 1
Panch Mahals ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	10	11	5	6	180	...	720 8 0	720 8 0	.....	317	6 16 3	6 16 3	...	1,213 14 4
	Do. import do. ...	13	24	5	19	2,315	1	1,935 0 0	260 0 0	1,725 0 0	914	68 12 89½	68 9 157	0 2 112½	578 8 5
	Do. export do. ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 0 157½	0 0 157½	...	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	15	0 0 46	0 0 46	...	...
	Total ...	25	37	11	26	2,495	1	2,715 8 0	990 8 0	1,725 0 0	1,246	74 29 116	74 27 3½	0 2 112½	1,792 6 9
Broach	Illegal possession of opium ...	10	11	1	10	...	...	77 0 0	77 0 0	.....	...	3 37 0	3 32 90	0 4 90	49 2 9
	Do. sale do. ...	2	2	...	2	...	...	90 0 0	90 0 0	.....	...	0 3 10¾	0 3 10¾	...	0 5 6
	Total ...	12	13	1	12	...	...	167 0 0	167 0 0	.....	...	4 0 10¾	3 35 100¾	0 4 90	49 8 3
Surat	Illegal sale of opium	1	1	...	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	5	0 0 17	0 0 17	...	.....

Thána	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	...	5 0 7
	Do. Sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	25	0 0 22½	0 0 22½	...	.....
	Total ...	2	2	1	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	25	0 5 22½	0 5 22½	...	5 0 7
Khán'esh ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	2	4	1	3	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	90	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. possession of opium ...	33	40	8	32	897	179	1,083 0 0	415 2 3	667 13 9	602	190 35 90¾	190 35 90¾	...	94 9 2
	Do. transport do. ...	1	1	...	1	180	...	.....	.....	.....	...	9 0 0	9 0 0	...	.....
	Do. import do. ...	2	6	...	6	3 0	...	144 0 0	144 0 0	.....	7	21 20 11¼	21 20 11¼	...	0 2 9
	Do. export do. ...	2	2	1	1	30	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	30	0 0 90	0 0 90	...	0 1 6
	Do. sale do. ...	6	9	...	9	15	...	109 0 0	10. 0 0	.....	133	0 18 90	0 18 90	...	12 5 9
	Breach of condition of license ...	2	4	4	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	...	1 12 0
	Total ...	48	66	14	52	1,482	179	1 376 0 0	708 2 3	667 13 9	862	221 34 102	221 34 102	...	108 15 2
Násik	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	3	1	2	...	60	4 0 0	4 0 0	.....	16	8 17 0	8 17 0	...	9 0 3
Ahmednagar ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	15	.....	.....	...	...
	Do. possession do.	1	1	...	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	15	0 12 0	0 12 0	...	.....
	Do. sale do.	9	9	4	5	...	...	87 0 0	87 0 0	.....	74	9 27 63½	9 19 75½	0 7 168	12 3 9
	Total ...	11	11	4	7	...	...	102 0 0	102 0 0	.....	104	9 39 63½	9 31 75½	0 7 168	12 3 9
Sholápur ...	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	2	3	2	1	...	...	2 0 0	2 0 0	.....	3	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. transport of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	1 0 0	1 0 0	.....	...	0 16 90	0 16 90	...	.....
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	0 8 0	0 8 0	.....	2	.....	.....	...	.....
	Total ...	4	5	2	3	...	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	.....	5	0 16 90	0 16 90	...	.....
Poona	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	1	1	0	1	...	60	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. possession of opium ...	6	8	6	2	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	20	57 22 0	14 22 0	13 0 0	.....
	Do sale do. ...	5	5	3	2	...	...	80 0 0	80 0 0	.....	90	1 5 78¾	1 5 78¾	.....	0 2 6
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....	.....
	Total ...	13	15	10	5	...	60	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	110	58 27 78¾	15 27 78¾	43 0 0	0 2 6
Sátára	Illegal sale of opium	1	1		1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	14	0 10 45	0 10 45	...	.....
Dhár'r... ...	Illegal sale of opium	2	2	1	1	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	10	0 15 0	0 7 0	0 8 0	2 0 6
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	1	...	1	30	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	30	0 0 168¾	0 0 168¾	...	1 3 6
	Total ...	3	3	1	2	30	...	40 0 0	40 0 0	.....	40	0 15 168¾	0 7 168¾	0 8 0	3 4 0
Bijápur	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	10 0 0	10 0 0	.....	20	.....	.....	...	.....
Karáchi	Illegal possession of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	...	0 6 112½	0 6 112½	...	.....
	Do. import do. ...	8	8	1	7	...	...	19 0 0	19 0 0	.....	13	0 25 101¼	0 24 168¾	0 0 112½	.....
	Total ...	9	9	1	8	...	...	49 0 0	49 0 0	.....	13	0 32 33¾	0 31 101¼	0 0 112½	.....

Statement No. IV—contd.

District.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Hyderabad ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	2	2	...	2	210	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 24 60	0 24 60	...	2 0 0
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	15	0 0 22½	0 0 22½	...	0 8 0
	Total ...	3	3	..	3	210	...	15 0 0	15 0 0	.....	15	0 24 82½	0 24 82½	...	2 8 0
Shikárpur ...	Illegal import of opium	6	8	6	2	1	...	35 0 0	10 0 0	25 0 0	20	0 19 37½	0 11 90	0 7 127½	11 0 0
	Breach of condition of license ...	1	3	1	2	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	15	.....	.....	...	3 12 0
	Total ...	7	11	7	4	1	...	60 0 0	35 0 0	25 0 0	35	0 19 37½	0 11 90	0 7 127½	14 12 0
Upper Sind Frontier.	Illegal manufacture of opium ...	1	2	1	1	...	...	20 0 0	20 0 0	.....	1	0 2 0	0 2 0	...	0 12 10
	Do. import do ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	4 0 0	4 0 0	.....	7	0 1 20	0 1 20	...	.....
	Total ...	2	3	1	2	...	...	24 0 0	24 0 0	.....	8	0 3 20	0 3 20	...	0 12 10
Thar and Párkar.	Illegal possession of opium ...	47	48	9	39	482	...	897 0 0	472 0 0	425 0 0	196	29 27 178	29 27 178	...	206 1 5
	ABSTRACT.														
	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	7	11	3	8	...	60	47 0 0	47 0 0	.....	128	.....	.....	...	.....
	Do. manufacture of opium ...	3	4	2	2	...	...	60 0 0	60 0 0	.....	61	0 22 0	0 22 0	...	8 13 5
	Do. possession ditto ...	268	292	57	235	5,116	264	9,521 1 0	6,401 11 3	3,119 5 9	3,897	649 32 76¾	584 12 14¾	65 20 62	3,151 7 2
	Do. transport ditto ...	5	7	1	6	420	...	121 0 0	21 0 0	100 0 0	30	21 29 90	21 29 90	...	95 6 0
	Do. import ditto ...	81	114	23	91	3,426	31½	3,024 4 1	864 4 1	2,160 0 0	1,873	244 14 4¾	244 3 12¼	0 10 172½	821 7 2
	Do. export ditto ...	6	11	3	8	150	...	150 0 0	70 0 0	80 0 0	123	5 1 67½	5 1 67½	...	0 1 6
	Do. sale ditto ...	36	43	9	34	15	14	1,041 0 0	1,041 0 0	.....	444	26 25 81	26 9 93	0 15 168	76 7 0
	Breach of condition of license ...	9	13	7	6	30	...	75 8 0	75 8 0	.....	61	1 10 173¾	1 10 173¾	...	6 11 6
	Total ...	415	495	105	390	9,157	369½	14,039 13 1	8,580 7 4	5,459 5 9	6,617	949 15 133¾	883 8 91¼	66 7 42½	4,160 5 9

Statement No. V., showing the Number and Nature of Offences relating to Opium, detected and inquired into each Native State in the Bombay Presidency in the Revenue year 1884-85, and the Punishments awarded by the Chiefs.

Districts.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Cutch ...	Illegal possession of opium. ...	2	5	5	..	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	0 14 45	.....	0 14 45	...
	Do. import do. ...	7	10	3	7	195	...	224 4 4	224 4 4	.....	....	16 0 9	16 0 9	.....	74 1 11
	Total ...	9	15	8	7	195	...	224 4 4	224 4 4	.....	...	16 14 54	16 0 9	0 14 45	74 1 11
Káthiáwár ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	51	70	20	50	1,033	732	1,388 0 0	518 0 0	870 0 0	1,066	224 25 92	224 14 35¾	0 11 56¼	393 6 0
	Do. import do. ...	11	17	2	15	150	...	269 0 0	69 0 0	200 0 0	56	11 27 134½	11 27 134½	.....	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	.....	15	0 6 169	0 6 167	.....	.....
	Total ...	63	88	22	66	1,183	732	1,665 0 0	595 0 0	1,070 0 0	1,137	235 29 35½	236 8 159¼	0 11 56¼	393 6 0
Pálanpur ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	69	98	14	84	394	354	1,312 0 0	661 0 0	651 0 0	936	56 29 151½	55 39 106¼	0 30 45	272 14 7
	Do. import do. ...	20	42	5	37	926	75	469 0 0	112 0 0	357 0 0	309	187 39 100¼	187 39 100¼	.....	44 5 9
	Do. sale do. ...	1	3	2	1	...	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	90	143	21	122	1,320	429	1,806 0 0	798 0 0	1,008 0 0	1,245	244 29 71¾	243 39 26¾	0 30 45	317 4 4
Mahi Kántha ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	44	67	4	63	60	...	1,878 0 0	1,305 0 0	573 0 0	2,286	35 24 123½	35 24 67	0 0 56¼	225 13 8
	Do. import do. ...	5	9	...	9	543	...	770 0 0	235 0 0	535 0 0	658	216 32 123¾	216 32 123¾	.....	304 0 9
	Total ...	49	76	4	72	603	...	2,648 0 0	1,540 0 0	1,108 0 0	2,944	252 17 67	252 17 10¾	0 0 56¼	529 14 5
Rewa Kántha ...	Illegal possession of opium ...	42	68	15	53	1,008	404	1,564 0 0	849 0 0	715 0 0	1,371	200 17 8½	200 14 93½	0 2 95	206 8 7
	Do. import do. ...	14	27	4	23	1,055	...	277 0 0	127 0 0	150 0 0	305	65 1 71¼	65 1 71¼	.....	125 4 8
	Do. export do. ...	1	2	...	2	...	—	55 0 0	55 0 0	.....	70	5 10 0	5 10 0	.....	.....
	Total ...	57	97	19	78	2,063	404	1,896 0 0	1,031 0 0	865 0 0	1,746	270 28 79¾	270 25 164¾	0 2 95	331 13 3

Statement No. V—continued.

Districts.	Nature of Offence.	Number of Cases brought up.	Number of Persons tried.	Number of Persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of Persons convicted.	Nature and Amount of Punishment awarded.						Quantity of Opium seized.	Quantity of Opium confiscated.	Quantity of Opium returned to the Owners.	Value of other Property seized along with Opium.
						Rigorous Imprisonment.	Simple Imprisonment.	Fine.							
								Total Amount adjudged.	Amount recovered.	Amount not recovered.	Imprisonment in default of Payment.				
						Days.	Days.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Days.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Lbs. t. g.	Rs. a. p.
Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country.	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....
Native States under Sátára Agency.	Illegal possession of opium ...	1	1	...	1	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	...	0 10 67	0 10 67	.....	0 4 0
	Do. sale do. ...	1	1	...	1	30	...	25 0 0	... ..	25 0 0	25	0 0 30	0 0 30	.....	.....
	Total ...	2	2	...	2	30	...	55 0 0	30 0 0	25 0 0	25	0 10 97	0 10 97	.....	0 4 0
	Abstract.														
	Illegal cultivation of poppy ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	8 0 0	8 0 0	.....	..	.....	.. ...	.....	.....
	Do. possession of opium ...	209	309	58	251	2,495	1,490	6,172 0 0	3,363 0 0	2,809 0 0	5,659	518 1 127½	516 23 9¾	1 18 117½	1,098 14 10
	Do. import do. ...	57	105	14	91	2,869	75	2,009 4 4	767 4 4	1,242 0 0	1,328	497 21 78¾	497 21 78¾	.....	547 13 1
	Do. export do. ...	1	2	...	2	...	...	55 0 0	55 0 0	.....	70	5 10 0	5 10 0	.....	.....
	Do. sale do. ...	3	5	2	3	30	...	58 0 0	33 0 0	25 0 0	40	0 7 19	0 7 19	.....	.....
	Total ..	271	423	74	349	5,394	1,565	8,302 4 4	4,226 4 4	4,076 0 0	7,097	1,021 0 45	1,019 21 107½	1 18 117½	1,646 11 11

J. G. MOORE,
Acting Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkári.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

Report on the Administration of the Opium Department in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1884-85.

No. 273.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 15th January 1886.

Letter from the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári, No. 7123, dated 19th October 1885 (received in print on the 5th December 1885)—Submitting his report on the administration of the Opium Department in the Bombay Presidency for the revenue year 1884-85.

RESOLUTION.—The quantity of opium in stock and imported into the Presidency under passes and the quantities disposed of in the year under review are compared with those in the previous year in the following statement:—

	In stock at the beginning of the year.	Imported.	Exported to China.	Bought for home consumption.	Otherwise disposed of.	In stock at the end of the year.
	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.	Chests.
1883-84	1,695	40,976½	39,763½	1,357½	98½	1,452
1884-85	1,452	41,466	39,819	1,534	253	1,312

Ninety-one chests imported direct by certain Native Chiefs, who are by agreement exempted from the payment of pass-fees, are included both in the quantity shown as imported and the quantity shown as bought for home consumption.

2. There was a decrease of 803½ in the number of chests (41,332) weighed and passed at the scales for importation into Bombay. The quantities weighed at Ujain and Indore were, as usual, far in excess of those weighed at other places. Of the total number only 39,460 chests arrived in Bombay before the close of the year under review, but 1,915 chests which had passed the scales in 1883-84 reached Bombay during the year. The request of the Dungarpur Darbár to be allowed to export opium to Ahmedabad by the Khervára-Ahmedabad route has been complied with.

3. The number of chests (39,819) exported to China in 1884-85 was greater by 55½ than in 1883-84. No opium was exported to China from the Baroda territory during the year under review. The average prices prevailing in the Bombay and China markets were lower than in the previous year. The average price in the Hongkong market is not shown to have been lower than in the Bombay market in 1884-85 as in 1883-84, but it is shown as having been so little higher that it could not possibly have been profitable to export opium from Bombay to China, if the figures are correct. It is clear that there is some error in the rates quoted for at least one of the markets. The quantity exported to other countries than China amounted to 81½ chests, and it, together with the quantity for which the passes were not utilized within two years from the date of their issue and which was therefore written off the accounts, is shown under the heading of "Otherwise Disposed of."

4. The rates of opium duty were the same as in the previous year. The total amount of pass duty levied on opium exported rose from Rs. 2,57,30,650 in 1883-84 to Rs. 2,59,92,812 in 1884-85, but the revenue realized from transhipment fees fell from Rs. 16,592 in 1883-84 to Rs. 14,511 in 1884-85. Only one rupee was refunded in the year under review as compared with Rs. 183 in the previous year. The reasons for these refunds should have been explained.

The items of revenue credited entirely to the Imperial head are contrasted with those in the previous year in the following statement:—

	1883-84.	1884-85.
	Rs.	Rs.
Pass Duty	2,57,30,650	2,59,92,812
Transhipment Fees	16,592	14,511
Interest	41	27
Miscellaneous Receipts... ...	.....	640
Gross Revenue ...	2,57,47,283	2,60,07,990
Deduct Refunds ...	183	1
Net Revenue ...	2,57,47,100	2,60,07,989

5. The quantity of opium imported for home consumption, the duty on which is credited to the head of Excise, was, as has been shown above, 1,534 chests, of which 312½ were bought by Government for the supply of Government depôts, 751 were purchased by licensees without the intervention of Government and 470½ were imported by Native Chiefs for consumption in their territories. The quantity of duty-paid opium consumed in the British districts in the year under review exceeded that in the previous year by 10,398 lbs. In all the districts in the Northern and Central Divisions, except Kaira, Thána and Surat, and especially in Ahmedabad, Sholápur, Ahmednagar and Násik, more taxed opium was consumed than in the previous year. Some increase also took place in Dhárwár and Kolába in the Southern Division, but in none of the districts in that Division is the consumption large. There was an increase of 1,058 lbs. in the amount of opium consumed in the town of Bombay. The Central Opium Warehouse was opened on the 1st August last and all stocks of opium held in private warehouses were removed to it. It is expected that through this measure practices which greatly interfered with the development of revenue from retail sales will be put a stop to. In all the Sind districts, and principally at Hyderabad, where the prices charged by licensed vendors were reduced, there was a marked increase in the consumption of taxed opium.

6. There was also a considerable increase in the amount of taxed opium consumed in Native States. The quantity consumed in Káthiáwár in 1884-85 exceeded that in 1883-84 by 10,782 lbs. and the average quantity consumed in the three years ending 1882-83 by 11,714 lbs. The increase was most marked in the Sorath Division of that province and was mainly due to the fact that the illegal import of opium into that division was to a certain extent checked by the enhancement of the selling price of opium in the neighbouring Amreli Mahál of the Baroda territory to a rate approximating the minimum selling price fixed by Government. In the other mahals of the Baroda territory, however, opium is still sold at a much lower rate, and the decline in licit sales in the Kaira District and in the States of Mahi Kántha, Reva Kántha and Cambay is attributed to this cause. It is satisfactory to notice that there was a decrease in the number of offences under the Opium Act and in the number of persons tried by Magistrates, both in British districts and Native States.

7. The total excise opium revenue rose from Rs. 10,28,532 in 1883-84 to Rs. 11,02,381 in 1884-85. The duty on opium sold for home consumption, including the reduced duty on opium supplied to Native States, increased from Rs 7,53,249 in 1883-84 to Rs. 8,59,965 in 1884-85, but the receipts from fees for licenses to sell by retail decreased from Rs. 1,03,673 to Rs. 99,669 and the

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amount levied on account of failure to sell the quantity of taxed opium of which the duty was guaranteed, from Rs. 1,57,485 to Rs.1,22,068. Rs. 8,818 of the amount levied for deficient sales were however refunded as compared with Rs. 11,887 in the previous year, while Rs. 308 of the amount levied for license fees were also refunded during the year under review. The profit on the sale of Government opium was Rs. 2,932 only, the price fixed being intended, as explained in previous years, merely to cover the cost and all charges.

8. In the report for 1883-84 the Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári stated that information regarding the expenditure incurred by the department could not be supplied as the ábkári and opium charges are mixed together in the statements furnished by the Accountant General. The Commissioner was instructed in Government Resolution No. 3073, dated 16th April 1885, to ascertain from the Accountant General annually the total expenditure recorded in the financial accounts under the head "Excise" and show in his administration report the proportion which may fairly be held to be for the protection of excise opium revenue. The charges during the year under review are estimated to have been Rs. 30,000, but of this sum Rs. 11,900 were recovered from some of the farmers on account of special preventive establishments, the contributions having been credited as miscellaneous revenue.

9. Mr. Pritchard was in charge of the department during the greater part of the year under review and administered it with his usual energy. The thanks of Government should be conveyed to Mr. Moore for his clear and careful report, which has been submitted with commendable punctuality.

J. MONTEATH,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner of Customs, Salt, Opium and A'bkári,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kaira,
The Collector and Political Agent, Thána,
The Collector and Political Agent, Kolába,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sholápur,
The Collector and Political Agent, Sátára,
The Collector and Political Agent, Dhárwár,
All other Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
The Accountant General,
The Collector of Customs and Assistant Commissioner of Salt Revenue in Sind,
The Political Agent, Káthiáwár,
The Political Agent, Cutch,
The Political Agent, Rewa Kántha,
The Political Agent, Mahi Kántha,
The Political Agent, Kolhápur and Southern Marátha Country,
The Political Superintendent, Pálanpur,
The Political Superintendent, Sávantvádi,
The Agent to the Governor General, Baroda,
The Agent to His Excellency the Governor, Surat,
The Political Department of the Secretariat.

} With copies of the report.

The Government of India,
The Secretary of State for India.

} By letter.